



Win Awenen Nisitotung

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Clarence "Taffy" Abel: A man of two worlds

100TH OLYMPIC ANNIVERSARY OF CLARENCE JOHN "TAFFY" ABEL HONORED

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Clarence John "Taffy" Abel is a Native American sports legend proudly claimed by his hometown in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. Following high school, Abel joined the United States National Hockey Team for the first Winter Olympics held in 1924, helping the team bring home the silver medal. He was the first Native American to participate in the winter games, the captain of his team, and the first person to represent the United States at the Winter Olympics by carrying the flag during the opening ceremonies.

Abel was also the first U.S. born player and the first Native American to become a regular player in the National Hockey League (NHL) when he debuted with New York Rangers in 1926, helping to win Stanley Cups for the New York Rangers and later, the Chicago Blackhawks.

Abel was named a charter member of the Upper Peninsula Sports Hall of Fame in 1972 and the United States Hockey Hall of Fame a year later in 1973. Lake Superior State University named its ice arena for him in 1990; and inside the Sault's Pullar Stadium, a larger-than-life photo of Abel is proudly displayed.

He was born May 28, 1900, to John Abel and Charlotte Gurnoe Abel, whose father, John Gurnoe, was a Chippewa (Anishinaabe) from Sault Ste. Marie.

George Jones was 4 years old

in 1954 when the memories of his uncle, Taffy Abel, stuck. His first memory was at a supper club in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. Then there were the family visits to the Upper Peninsula during the summer months and fall deer hunting trips. He remembers him as being a kind man and thought of him as his Chippewa Indian uncle.

Jones, from Peoria, Ill., is 72 now. Jones' mother and Taffy's wife, Tracy, were sisters. His last remembrance of his Uncle Taffy was at age 14 in 1964 when his uncle passed away.

Jones says the biggest thing he remembers in Taffy's teachings on sports, in business and in life was him saying, "I am in the business of winning." Jones said his uncle proved that with an Olympic Silver Medal in Hockey and by helping win two Stanley Cups.

"My uncle Taffy Abel was the first Native American in the first ever Winter Olympics in 1924 in France. February 2022 marks his 100th anniversary of being in the Winter Olympics. As a defenseman (white sweater) he scored an amazing 15 goals for the silver medal winning Team USA," Jones said.

According to Jones, Abel had to live in two worlds. To get into the Olympics and the NHL, he had to pass as a white man. When Abel's father passed away in 1920, he became the sole economic support for his mother and younger sister and made his income by playing hockey. Almost 20 years later, in 1939 after his mother's passing, Abel publicly acknowledged his Chippewa heritage when he co-founded the Sault Indians Hockey Team. As a coach, he helped lead the Indians to three consecutive championships from 1940 to 1942 in the Northern Michigan Hockey League.



Taffy Abel, born to a Native family in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., was the first Native American in the first ever Winter Olympics. Among his many accomplishments was an Olympic silver medal for hockey and two Stanley Cups. Seen through the lens of the Indigenous world, Taffy was a man who had to play as a white man for the Olympics and NHL, and came home to coach as a Native man.

Jones said his uncle Taffy first played organized amateur hockey with the Michigan Soo Nationals in 1918, in the U.S. Amateur Hockey Association, the first organized league in the United States. Abel competed for that team, also known as the Soo Indians, through the 1921-22 season. In 1922, he joined the St. Paul Athletic Club of the Western Section of the new U.S. Amateur Hockey League. He played with them until he joined the U.S. Olympic team in 1924.

After the 1924 Winter Olympics, Abel played one more year of amateur hockey with the St. Paul team, and then joined the Minneapolis Millers in 1925. Abel, who had been given nicknames from sportswriters and fans such as Michigan Mountain, Mack Truck, and Stonewall, ended his career after 16 seasons of amateur and professional hockey, including 333 games in the NHL, and returned to the Sault. There, he and his wife, Tracy, operated the Log Cabin Cafe on Ashmun Street. Later they opened Taffy's Lodge, with views of the St. Mary's River.

He died in 1964 in his hometown and was survived by his wife Tracy and his stepson, Hugh.

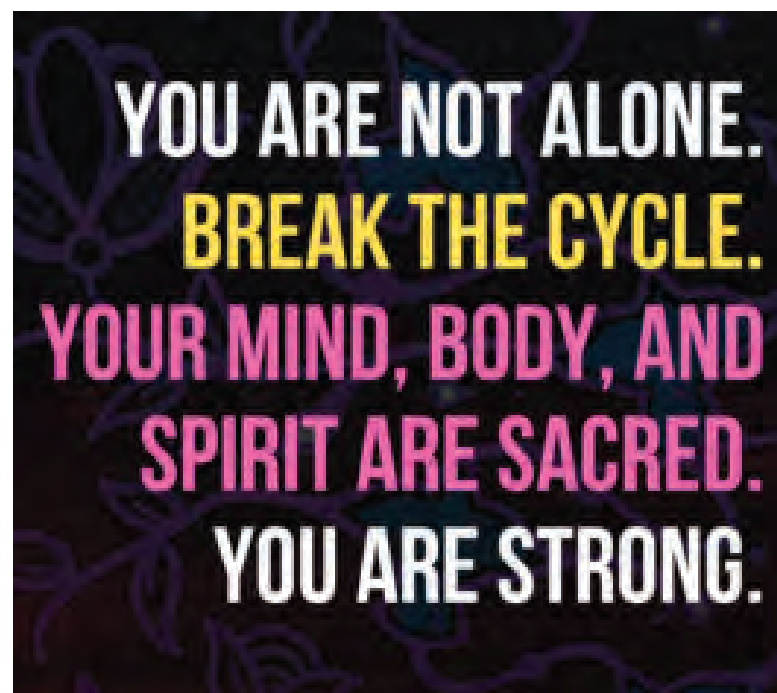
after his death. The Olympic silver medal was stolen, along with a scrapbook and pictures. These items have never been recovered.

Jones said he believes that even today Taffy Abel faces a form of cultural genocide and erasure. "The NHL, New York Rangers and USA Hockey still refuse to honor Taffy Abel as the first Native American in hockey," he said. "The NHL has wrongly said that Fred Sasakamoose was the first Indian or Indigenous player in the NHL in 1953. The U.S. Olympics (Team USA and USA Hockey) barely acknowledge Taffy Abel (with a meager "*) as a Native American ... and that was because I had to fight like hell for that meager asterisk," he said.

"Among family and friends, Taffy always identified as a proud Chippewa Native American. He and his mother are both listed in the federal Durant Roll showing their Chippewa Native American Heritage," Jones said. "There were two Taffys — a public one and a private one. Two worlds — a white one and a Native American one."

On Jan. 18, 2022, Rep. Jack Bergman of Michigan in the House of Representatives officially recognized Clarence "Taffy" Abel and the 100th Anniversary of the first Native American in the Winter Olympics.

Bergman said, "Taffy's accomplishments have inspired countless people across this nation and the world. On behalf of Michigan's First Congressional District, I ask you to join me in honoring the 100th anniversary of the first Native American in the Winter Olympics, Clarence "Taffy" Abel. His historic accomplishments are memorialized in the American Indian Athletic Hall of Fame and the U.S. Hockey Hall of Fame. Taffy's legacy continues to inspire future generations across Michigan, the United States and the world."



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After-School Anishinaabe-mowin Recreation Program

Pilot program teaches kids Anishinabemowin through activities

FROM LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

The Sault Tribe Language and Culture Division is announcing that applications will be available for the After-School Anishinaabe-mowin Recreation Program beginning Feb. 15, 2022, for children ages 5-12 years old in the Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., area.

This is a pilot project with the primary goal of creating emerging speakers of Anishinaabe-mowin (Ojibwe language). Children will be taught language skills through activities and everyday routines

in a fun, recreational setting.

Outdoor activities will include nature hikes, snowshoeing, snow snake games, sugar bush and planting gardens. Indoors activities will include: crafting, cooking, board games, and creating video/graphics for the family. The program will host a Nokomis/Mishomis storyteller weekly to share traditional stories, especially in the winter months.

There will be Family Day Camps at the Mary Murray Culture Camp on Sugar Island, with the first one being sugar bush! The program will also run through the summer to keep language skills sharp and provide fun events.

The second goal of this pro-

gram is to train adults to become teachers of the language. With first-language speakers retiring or walking on, there is an extreme shortage of teachers across Anishinaabe country.

Language and Culture Catherine DeVoy Director said, "We are searching for that one or two individuals that have a novice speaking level in Anishinaabe-mowin and loves working with kids to be our Language Para-pro."

Teacher mentors for the project will be Ojibwe first language teacher Shirley Recollet and DeVoy, retired culture and language teacher. They are teaming up to mentor the para-pros in the language, plan fun ways to learn

and develop take-home resource materials for the kids and families.

The pilot program will be available to only 15 children in its first year. Participating in the program means a major commitment for families. Parents and guardians will have to apply and demonstrate year-long commitment with activities to support language learning at home, plus weekly participation in online or virtual learning for the family. Attendance at the camp session will also will be required for the family.

If the program proves successful, there will be every effort to seek further funding to continue and expand the program for other

locations.

The After-School Anishinaabe-mowin Recreation Program will run Monday through Friday (based on local school calendars) from 3:15 to 6 p.m. and will operate from Language and Culture Division at the Big Bear Arena. Parents and guardians are responsible for arranging drop-off and pick-up of children.

Strict COVID protocols will be adhered to, similar to how local schools operate. Families will receive information when they are enrolled.

If a family is interested in learning more about this opportunity, contact the program by email culture@saulttribe.net or by phone, (906) 635-6050, ext. 26140. Please leave a message if the line is busy.

SAULT STE. MARIE TRIBE OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS VOTER REGISTRATION FORM

Non-resident Members must choose one of the five election units in order to vote in Tribal Elections. They should consider selecting the unit in which they have the closest ties and indicate below the unit they select. Registration is permanent unless you move in/out of an election unit. This form must be received by the Tribal Election Committee ninety (90) days prior to a general election in order for the registration to be valid. The address to which my ballot should be sent is:

Please Print

NAME _____ MAILING ADDRESS _____

STREET (PHYSICAL) ADDRESS _____

CITY & STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

To verify identity, please include last four numbers of your social security: - - -

I understand that this voter registration card must be completed and received at least 90 days prior to a general election to be eligible to vote in Tribal Elections.

I register to vote in Unit _____ SIGNATURE _____

(Must have signature to be Valid.)

Moving ?



When you move, let us know where you are headed! That way you won't miss one issue of your tribal paper. Call (906) 632-6398 or email slucas@saulttribe.net.

OUR BEST HOPE IS THE COVID-19 VACCINE.

Why should I get mine?

The COVID-19 vaccine is safe and effective. It will save lives and help Michigan move forward. Protect us all, by getting your dose of hope.

To find your vaccine or to learn more visit Michigan.gov/COVIDvaccine.

Text your zip code to 438829 or call the COVID-19 Hotline at 888-535-6136 and press 1.



Become an Iron Worker

Want financial independence — a new car, a home, traveling? Become a legendary ironworker, a trade where you learn when you earn. Local 8 is offering the opportunity to learn the trade and become part of the brotherhood

and sisterhood. Not just a job but a career with great benefits. Local 8 trains the best in the country. Complete an apprenticeship application today at www.iwl8.org/apprenticeship. (Online applications only accepted.)

Committee Vacancies, join one today

The following committees have vacant seats. Sault Tribe members interested in filling these vacancies should submit one letter of intent and three letters of recommendation from other members to Joanne Carr or Katelynn Griffin, 523 Ashmun St., Sault Ste. Marie MI 49783. Call (906) 635-6050 with any questions.

- Anishinaabe Cultural Committee - nine vacancies - four males (4-year term), five female (4-year term)
- Child Welfare Committee - two vacancies (4-year term), 1 vacancy (expires May 2023)
- Election Committee - four vacancies (4-year term)
- Higher Education Committee - four vacancies (4-year term)
- Health Board - four vacancies (4-year term)
- Special Needs/Enrollment Committee - seven vacancies (2-year term)
- Elder Advisory Committee
- Unit I - Sault (4-year term), one regular vacancy and one alternate vacancy
- Unit II - Hessel (4-year term), one alternate vacancy

- Unit II - Naubinway (4-year term), one alternate vacancy
- Unit III - St. Ignace (4-year term), two alternate vacancy
- Unit IV - Escanaba (4-year term) one regular vacancy and one alternate vacancy
- Unit V - Munising (4-year term), one alternate vacancy
- Unit V - Marquette (4-year term), one regular vacancy and one alternate vacancy
- Elder Subcommittee
- Unit I - Sault (4-year term), one alternate seat vacancy
- Unit II - Hessel (4-year term), two regular seat vacancies, one alternate vacancy
- Unit II - Newberry (4-year term), one regular seat vacancies, one alternate vacancy
- Unit II - Naubinway (4-year term), two regular seat vacancies
- Unit IV - Escanaba (4-year term), three regular seat vacancies, two alternate vacancies
- Unit V - Munising (4-year term), one regular seat vacancies, one alternate seat vacancy
- Unit V - Marquette (4-year term), two regular seat vacancies, one alternate seat vacancy

Tribal members: need assistance?

Three membership liaisons work with the chairperson's office on membership issues and concerns across the service area. The liaisons respond to membership issues and follow up to ensure they are resolved. Sault Tribe members are encouraged to contact the liaisons when they need help with tribal issues by emailing membersconcerns@saulttribe.net or contacting them individually at:

- Clarence Hudak, Lambert Center, St. Ignace, (906) 643-2124, chudak@saulttribe.net
- Mary Jenerou, Manistique Tribal Center, (906) 341-8469; Munising Centers, (906) 450-7011 or (906) 450-7011, mjenerou@saulttribe.net.

Sault Tribe Food Distribution Program accepting new applicants

The Sault Tribe Food Distribution Program is open and accepting new applicants. Office hours are Monday through Friday 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., and our store is open by appointment for clients to come in and shop. Everyone must still keep social distancing in mind and wear a mask if not fully vaccinated. The program offers a variety of seasonal fresh fruit and vegetables, as well as other new items. There has been some confusion regarding eligibility and the extra pandemic money. Our program does not use the extra \$300 pandemic unemployment compensation, the recent child tax credit payments, or any past stimulus payments to determine eligibility. If you want to know if you or a loved one qualifies or if you have any questions about USDA and the food program, call (906) 635-6076, or (888) 448-8732.

Seeking information about missing, murdered Sault Tribe members

In an effort to create an informational database for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons (MMIP), the Advocacy Resource Center (ARC) seeks information regarding missing and murdered individuals who belong to the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. The information provided does not be current information. The ARC is seeking information for ALL missing or

murdered tribal members including the seven-county service area and tribal members across the world. Please ask for community educator, Jess Gillotte-King (extension 73104), when calling the ARC. If messaging the ARC Facebook page (www.facebook.com/saulttribeARC), please leave the following information: First/middle/last name, date of

birth, date of death, murdered/when/where, and perpetrator name, if applicable. If missing: Nickname/alias, date last seen/went missing, physical description, distinctive physical features, and any vehicle information. Any information would be appreciated. Thank you for your participation in this matter. Please feel free to share this information.

CCDF plan, public comment bulletin

The Sault Tribe's Anishnaabek Community and Family Services (ACFS) 2023-2025 Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Plan is available for your review. The CCDF program provides child care assistance to lower the burden of high child care costs of eligible Sault Tribe households in the Sault Tribe's seven-county service area. How we administer this program is partly determined by your input. The plan is available Feb. 21-25, 2022 for comment at the following ACFS locations:

- (906) 632-5250
- ACFS - St. Ignace Office, 1140 N. State Street, Suite 2805, St. Ignace, MI 49781, (906) 643-8689
- ACFS - Manistique Office, 5698 W. Highway US 2, Manistique, MI 49783, (906) 341-6993
- ACFS - Munising Office, 622 W. Superior Street, Munising, MI 49862, (906) 387-3906
- ACFS - Kincheloe, 60 Kincheloe, Kincheloe, MI 49788, (906) 495-1232
- Advocacy Resource Center, 2769 Ashmun Street, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783, (906) 632-1808
- Hessel Community Health

Center, 3355 N. 3 Mile Road, Hessel, MI 49745, (906) 484-2727

Newberry Community Health Center, 4935 Zeez Ba Tik Lane, Newberry, MI 49868, (906) 293-8181

USDA, 3604 Mackinac Trail, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783, (906) 635-6076

Public comment will be heard Thursday, Feb. 23, 2022 from 4 - 6 p.m. at 2218 Shunk Road, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783. You can also find the CCDF Plan on line at <https://saulttribe.com/membership-services/acfs/direct-services/child-care-development-fund>.

Avery Square spring art and craft show

Spring Arts & Craft Show at Avery Square! Bake Sale, too! 510 Ashmun St. in Sault, Mich. Friday, April 8, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Spring bake sale and craft show! Call (906) 253-1399 for an application.

Open to all arts and crafts vendors with handmade items to sell to the public. No rummage sale items. Ten-foot tables and chairs are available on request. Returning artists get the first choice of spaces available. Remaining

spaces will be assigned based on category of work, special needs, or requests as applications are turned in. Limited spots available. Vendors are being asked for a donation of \$5 to \$10 for advertising. Booth space free.

Tax Exemption Certificates Michigan Secretary of State Appointments

Requests for Certificate of Exemptions require a 24-hr. notice prior to the SOS appointment.

The Tribal Tax Office staff may not be able to assist Resident Tribal Members, who are at a scheduled appointment and did not call the Tribal Tax Office in advance for the Certificate of Exemption.

The Tribal Tax Office is not responsible for a delay in obtaining the registration for vehicles, recreational vehicles, motor homes, etc., due to the Resident Tribal Member not requesting the Certificate of Exemption in a timely manner.

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Job descriptions can be found at <http://SaultTribeGuardian.com>

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The official newspaper of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

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Jennifer Dale-Burton.....Editor
Brenda Austin.....Staff Writer
Sherrie Lucas.....Secretary

Win Awenen Nisitotung welcomes submissions of news articles, feature stories, photographs, columns and announcements of American Indian or non-profit events. All submissions are printed at the discretion of the editor, subject to editing and are not to exceed 400 words. Unsigned submissions are not accepted. Please note the distribution date when submitting event information for our community calendar. Submissions can be mailed, faxed or e-mailed. The distribution date is the earliest the newspaper can arrive in the seven-county service area. Win Awenen Nisitotung is funded by the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of

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call for other foreign countries. Subscribe by sending your name and mailing address to the address below with your check or money order made out to the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. Or, call (906) 632-6398 to pay by credit card. Advertising: \$8.50/column inch. Submission and Subscriptions: Win Awenen Nisitotung Attn: Communications Dept. 531 Ashmun St., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 Telephone: (906) 632-6398 Fax: (906) 632-6556 E-mail: slucas@saulttribe.net or jdale-burton@saulttribe.net.



December COVID lottery winners get \$5,000

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — December 2021 winners have been announced for Sault Tribe's COVID-19 Rescue Act Vaccination Lottery. Three team member drawings and three tribal member drawings were held, with each winner receiving \$5,000, for a total of \$30,000 in December vaccination lottery prizes.

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors established the COVID-19 Rescue Act Vaccination Lottery, which will be held every month through April 2022, to encourage tribal members and team members to get vaccinated to help reduce the spread of COVID-19.

December tribal member lottery winners were Karen Anderson of Kentucky, Wendy Jones of California and Katia Jones of



Karen Anderson

Rudyard, Mich.

Anderson said, "My sincere gratitude for the tribe hosting this lottery to shine a spotlight on the importance of vaccinations. I feel if each of us takes a small part (vaccination), we can pound this horrible '100-year flu' back in its hole. We need to rely on science/technolo-

gy."

Anderson said we've come a long way since the Spanish flu pandemic of 1918. "There are still houses standing today where people were sent to die because we didn't have this science/technology back then."

The tribal member from Kentucky said we are already vaccinated against many other "hor-



Wendy Jones

rendous diseases," such as measles, mumps and polio, just to name a few, and if we get the COVID vaccine, we won't "grow a third eye."

As for her winnings: "Thank you, my Sault Tribe!!! I have never won so much as a tootsie pop in my entire life...now this...WOW!"

Anderson, who hunts, fishes, gardens, and cooks, might be treating herself to ammo, bait, seeds and baking supplies, and maybe even a new rifle.

Wendy Jones of California was certainly surprised when she received her winning notice. "What a surprise and a huge blessing to be one of the winners of the vaccination lotto and I am truly thankful!" she said.

Jones works in the service industry and getting vaccinated

was a high priority for her. "I feel the responsibility to help protect others," she said. "I also wanted to protect my own health because I have health conditions that could make me susceptible to complications of COVID-19."

Jones said getting vaccinated



Katia Jones

for COVID-19 helps her body recognize the virus and gives her a better chance of not contracting COVID-19. She added, "It also gives me peace of mind knowing the vaccination helps prevent severe complications from the virus if contracted."

She is looking forward to giving back to the Education Division, which continues "doing great things for our community for early childhood, youth and adult education."

Winner from Rudyard, Katia Jones, said, "I am very grateful and was very surprised and excited to be a COVID vaccination lottery winner. "I felt that getting a COVID vaccination was important to protect my immune-compromised family members as well as keep my job in healthcare."

Team member winners for December were Brandi St. Andrew,



Angelique Lavake

Angelique Lavake and Brenda Corbiere.

Brenda Corbiere, an Optical Assistant in the Sault Ste. Marie Health Center, was happy and excited to receive her winnings. Angelique Lavake, of Tribal Court, was thrilled to have been one of the "lucky winners" of the \$5,000 drawing.

"I believe that this is such a great initiative by the Sault Tribe

to get people vaccinated," Lavake said. "I'm very thankful and I know that my husband, kids and especially grandkids will benefit greatly from it."

To enter the vaccination lottery, participants must complete and submit only one entry form on the tribe's website, saulttribe.com. Eligible participants will automatically qualify for the next month's drawings if they did not win during the prior month.

Winning the vaccination lottery meant a lot to Brandi St. Andrews, a Beverage Supervisor at Kewadin Shores in St. Ignace. "The money will help me catch up on bills and I'm saving the rest," she said. "The money will help me get back up to date after the holidays. Having the vaccinations makes me feel like I'm protecting my family and customers at the casino."

To be eligible to participate, tribal members and team members must be 18 and older as of the entry date. Winners must provide proof they received at least one dose of an approved vaccination.



Health Center Director Leo Chugunov, Ph.D., and Brenda Corbiere, an Optical Assistant in the Sault Ste. Marie Health Center, who was happy and excited to receive her winnings.

February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month

BY JESS GILLOTTE-KING, ARC COMMUNITY EDUCATOR

February is typically associated with love and relationships. We often find our "first love" or "puppy love" in our teens. It is important to demonstrate to teens about what a healthy relationship looks like and should feel like. By modeling healthy relationships, teens learn what behaviors are acceptable and appropriate. Teen dating violence is a serious issue and is becoming more prevalent in adolescent relationships. Teen dating violence is defined as "the physical, sexual, or psychological / emotional abuse within a dating relationship among adolescents."

According to the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, one in three adolescents in the United States is a victim of physical, sexual, emotional, verbal abuse from a dating partner. For Native American teens, the rate is even higher. In one study by the Center for Disease Control, the rate of teen dating violence among high school students in Alaska's Native communities is 13.3 percent, nearly 4 percent higher than the national average of 9.8 percent. Further studies suggest that American Indians are 2.5 times more likely to experience sexual assault crimes compared to all other races, and one in three Indian

women report having been raped during her lifetime.

Here are signs of abusive behaviors:

Physical Abuse: Hitting, punching, shoving, restraining, biting, scratching, hair pulling, pinching, or anything that causes harm to another person.

Sexual Abuse: Pressuring or forcing a partner to engage in unwanted sexual activity, using social media or text messages to pressure partners to share photos, raping or coercing partner to perform sexual acts, preventing the use of birth control or other forms of contraception

Verbal Abuse: Name calling, yelling, insulting, embarrassing, criticizing, etc.

Psychological Abuse: Using threats and intimidation, such as threatening to end the relationship, threats to cause harm to themselves or others, threats to commit suicide, or to cause harm to pets or property. Using controlling tactics such as not allowing partner to see friends or family or preventing them from going places, controlling what clothes are worn, extreme jealousy, spreading rumors, minimizing behaviors, or blaming partner for their abusive actions.

Using Technology: Excessive texting, messaging, calling, cyber bullying, checking partner's phone

without permission, using location services to track partner, stalking, creating fake profiles to spy on partner, posting on partners social media, messaging others about partner, etc.

FOR PARENTS

Teen dating violence is on the rise yet it can be prevented. It is necessary for pre-teen and teens to begin learning the skills that are needed to create and maintain healthy relationships. These skills may include; how to manage feelings appropriately, how to communicate in a healthy way, respecting boundaries and having appropriate expectations of others. It is not always easy for teens to express their feelings to adults but knowing they have someone willing to listen is vital.

FOR TEENS

If you find yourself in an abusive relationship or feel you are being treated inappropriately, please tell someone and consider ending the relationship. If your partner is making you feel uncomfortable or forcing or coercing you to do things you do not agree with, know that you are not alone. The Advocacy Resource Center has a wealth of knowledge and compassion to assist with teen dating violence and provide care and counseling to those in need.

Teen Dating Violence is on

the rise and it is our job to teach, to protect and to demonstrate a healthy relationship. We must help our adolescents understand and know the value of their worth.

The Advocacy Resource Center can be reached at (906) 632-1808, please ask to speak to an advocate.

Also, look for more information on our website at www.arcsault-tribe.com or on our Facebook at www.facebook.com/sault-tribeARC and on our Instagram @AdvocacyResource.

Remember, LOVE SHOULDN'T HURT.



This February, start talking about **healthy relationships!**

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Board resolutions passed at February 1 meeting

A regular meeting of the Sault Tribe Board of Directors was held Feb. 1, 2022, in Sault Ste. Marie at the Kewadin Casino Hotel and Convention Center. The board discussed and passed 20 resolutions by unanimous vote.

Resolution 2022-36: Cultural, Institute of Museum and Library Services ARPA, establishment of FY 2022 budget — The board approved establishment of a FY 2022 budget for IMLS with Federal Department of Education revenue monies of \$41,381.59.

#37: ACFS, Family Violence Prevention and Services Act, American Rescue Plan COVID-19 Testing, Vaccines, and Establishment of FY 2022 Budget — The Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) Program administered by the Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Family and Youth Services Bureau has awarded American Rescue Plan (ARP) COVID-19 Testing, Vaccines, and Mobile Health Units supplemental funding in the amount of \$1,480,722 to support domestic violence survivors increased access to vaccination and testing during the COVID-19 public health emergency. The board authorized the acceptance of the supplemental funding award and the establishment of a FY 2022 budget with Federal HHS monies of \$720,777.90.

#38: ACFS, Family Violence Prevention and Services Act, American Rescue Plan Grants to Support Survivors of Sexual Assault and Establishment of FY 2022 Budget — The Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) Program administered by the Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Family and Youth Services Bureau has awarded American Rescue Plan (ARP) Grants to the tribe in the amount of \$411,484 to support tribal programs that provide crisis services to survivors of sexual assault who have experienced increased emergency needs as a result of the COVID-19 public health emergency. The board authorized the acceptance of the supplemental funding award; and approved the establishment of a FY 2022 budget with Federal HHS monies of \$140,108.86.

#39: OVC FY 2022 Tribal Victim Services Set-Aside Formula Program — The U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) has funding to support Indian tribes with improving public safety and enhancing services for victims of crime; the board authorized application for the OVC FY 2022 Tribal Victim Services Set-Aside Formula Program.

#40: Child Advocacy Project,

Establishment of FY 2022 Budget — A FY 2022 budget was approved for \$238,936 with Federal Department of Justice monies.

#41: COPS TRGP 2021 Establishment of FY 2022 Budget — Approved with federal Department of Justice monies of \$110,596.50.

#42: Family Spirit Grant and Third-Party Revenue FY 2022 Budget Modifications — The board approved the FY 2022 budget modification to the Family Spirit grant to increase expenses with Third Party revenue of \$3,952.58. No effect on Tribal Support. They also approved the FY 2022 budget modification to Third Party Revenue increasing the \$3,952.58 transfer out.

#43: Establishment of FY 2022 Budget for COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics and Third-Party Revenue FY 2022 Budget Modification — Approved with third party revenue monies of \$4,439.56. The FY 2022 budget modification to Third Party Revenue increasing the \$4,439.56 transfer out was also approved.

#44: Sault Walk-In Clinic and Third-Party Revenue FY 2022 Budget Modification — Approved for an increase in expenses with Third Party revenue of \$182,468.04. The budget modification to Third Party Revenue increasing the \$182,468.04 transfer out was also approved.

#45: COVID-19 Vaccine Related Activities Establishment of FY 2022 Budget — Approved with Federal Department of Health and Human Services monies of \$944,845.

#46: Public Health Workforce Establishment of FY 2022 Budget — Approved with Federal Department of Health and Human Services monies of \$928,633.

#47: COVID-19 ARPA TCTMM Establishment of FY 2022 Budget — Approved with Federal Department of Health and Human Services monies of \$3,988,958.

#48: COVID-19 Testing Activities Establishment of FY 2022 Budget — Approved with Federal Department of Health and Human Services monies of \$2,636,858.

#49: Approval for Application for Tribal Practices for Wellness in Indian Country CDC-RFA-DP22-2201 — The board approved the application to apply for, and agreement to accept funding if awarded, to the Tribal Practices for Wellness in Indian Country, CDC-RFA-DP22-2201.

#50: 2022 BIA-GLRI Invasive Species Management — The Bureau of Indian Affairs provides funding through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative for invasive species management. The board authorized Aaron Payment, tribal chairperson, or his duly authorized representative to sign, negotiate,

amend and execute any agreements for the 2022 Great Lakes Restoration Initiative administered by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

#51: BIA GLRI Habitats & Species Grant, Ma'iingan in Boreal Forest Ecosystems — The Sault Tribe Wildlife Program is engaged with a collaborative initiative with the US Forest Service and the Center for Cooperative Ecological Resilience at Michigan State University to develop Adaptive Management Plans to increase the resilience of remnant boreal ecosystems, driven by tribal wildlife and plant concerns; and ma'iingan plays a vital role in the function of remnant boreal ecosystems; and the Bureau of Indian Affairs continues to provide competitive funding through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative to restore wildlife habitat in the Great Lakes Basin. The board authorized Aaron Payment, tribal chairperson, or his duly authorized representative to sign, negotiate, amend and execute any agreements for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative administered by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

#52: 2022 GLRI Whitefish Pond Rearing — The Bureau of Indian Affairs provides competitive funding through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative to work on restoring and rehabilitating native fish species in the Great Lakes. The



Screenshot of the Sault Tribe Website and the approved resolutions folder.

board authorized Aaron Payment, tribal chairperson, or his duly authorized representative to sign, negotiate, amend and execute any agreements thereof for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative administered by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

#53: 2022 GLRI Deepwater Coregonids — The Bureau of Indian Affairs continues to provide competitive funding through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative to work on restoring and rehabilitating native fish species in the Great Lakes. The board authorized Aaron Payment, tribal chairperson, or his duly authorized representative to sign, negotiate, amend and execute any agreements thereof for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative administered by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

#54: Approving Contract Amendment Sonosky Chambers — The board approved the contract between the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and Sonosky Chambers, ending Dec. 31, 2022, at the monthly fee of \$7,500, for

the purpose of providing consulting services to the tribe.

#55: Community Health Technician and Third-Party Revenue FY 2022 Budget Modifications and Establishment of FY 2022 Budget for DeTour Clinic — The board approved the FY 2022 budget modification to Community Health technician to decrease expenses and decrease Third Party revenue \$100,000. They also approved the FY 2022 budget modification to Third Party Revenue, to decrease the transfer out to Community Health Technician \$100,000 and establish a new transfer out of \$194,679.64 for the DeTour Clinic. Another cost center is to be established for the purposes of renovation and equipment for this center to not exceed \$75,000 as determined by the tribal CFO. The board approved the establishment of a FY 2022 budget for two cost centers for the DeTour Clinic with funding by Third Party Revenue monies of \$194,679.64.

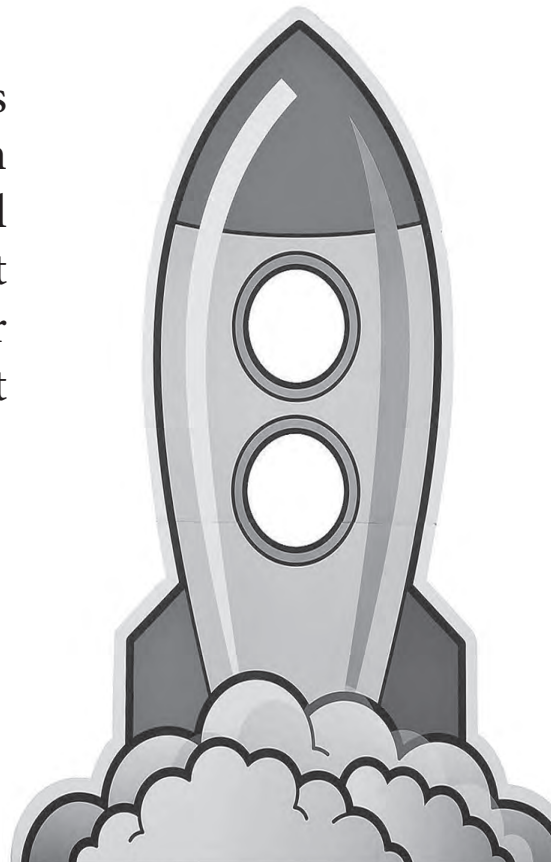
To view approved resolutions in their entirety, visit saulttribe.com.

“Class of 2035” • Sault Area Public Schools • “A Great Place to Learn”

KINDERGARTEN ROUNDUP!

March 8-10, 2022 virtual by appointment.

If you have a child that is ready for Kindergarten in the Fall of 2022, please fill out enrollment form at www.saultschools.org or call (906-635-6629). Must be age 5 by Sept. 1, 2022.



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Anishinaabemowin 2022

“The human species thinks in metaphors and learns through stories.”
Good piece of insight for strategy when learning a new language — like ours!



Makwa Giizis
Bear Moon
by Susan Askwith

Bboon (winter) is the appropriate time to tell teaching stories or legends.

We call them “**aadzokaanan.**” (*aad-zo-kaan-an*). The last “an” makes it plural.

Bizindamooshin – listen to me

bi-zin-di-moo-shin

Naadamooshin – help me

naa-da-moo-shin

Giigida – he or she is talking

gii-gi-da

Wiisini – he or she is eating

wii-sin-i

Miijim n’bishigendaan! – I like food!

mii-jim n-bi-shi-gen-daan

Oo(nh)! Miigis maampii! – Oh! here is

mii-gis maan-da — a shell!

Nda waasidewin! – My reflection!

n-da waa-si-de-win

Kag wa. – That is a Canada goose

kag wa (plural: *kagoog*)

Nda makwendaan wi. – I remember that.

n-da ma-kwen-daan wi

Endaayaanh maanda. – This is my house.

en-daa-yaa(nh) maan-da

Another kind of story we tell is a dbaaajmowin (di-baaaj-moo-win).

It’s just relating something that happened, and can be told any time of year.

Here’s a funny example:

A sign says “Talking Dog for Sale.” The owner said the dog was in the back yard, so a guy goes there and asks, ‘You talk?’ *Dog: Yup.* *Guy: So what’s your story?* *Dog: I realized as a pup that I could talk and wanted to work for the government. I worked for the CIA as a spy and flew all over the world eavesdropping. I was one of their most valuable assets.”* So the guy went to the owner, who said the price was \$10. *Guy: That dog is amazing. Why sell him so cheap?* *Owner: Because he’s a ridiculous liar! He’s never done any of those things!*

Making our Sounds Most letters sound like in English.

Here are the exceptions.

aa sounds like the a in *awesome* **a** sounds like the a in *about*

ii sounds like the e in *be* **i** sounds like the i in *dip*

oo sounds like the o in *go* **o** sounds like the oo’s in *book*

e sounds like the e in *end* **g** sounds only like it does in *go*

Pronounce all the letters. *Underlined, italic type* will tell you which word-parts to stress. Long words are broken up with dashes (-); still, say each word smoothly. And notice “nh” has NO SOUND of its own. *It’s a sign to say the vowels just before it in a nasal way - as if you had a stuffed up nose from a cold.*

Mishiikenh, e-dbaajmad **Turtle, the storyteller**
mi-shii-ke(nh), e-di-baa-ji-mad

Long ago when the world was new, things were different than they are today. Bears had long furry tails, Raven was white and not black, tamarak trees kept their needles all year, and Turtle had a bright shiny beautiful shell.

Turtle was very proud of his shell, and he let other creatures look at it to see their reflections and notice how they looked from the outside in, rather than from the inside out. The animals would thank the turtle for the view by giving him food, which gave him a lot of enjoyment.

Besides food, Turtle’s main pleasure in life was talking. He loved to talk about anything and everything. He loved the sound of his own voice. He had a good memory for stories and even the smallest details of long ago times.

In the fall, the geese made ready to fly south. When Turtle asked why, they said they were going to a place where there was always plenty of good food. They

offered to take Turtle there, and in almost no time he said ‘Yes!’

So the geese got a branch from a tree and put it between their feet like a swing.

Turtle grabbed firmly on the stick with his mouth and they lifted off.

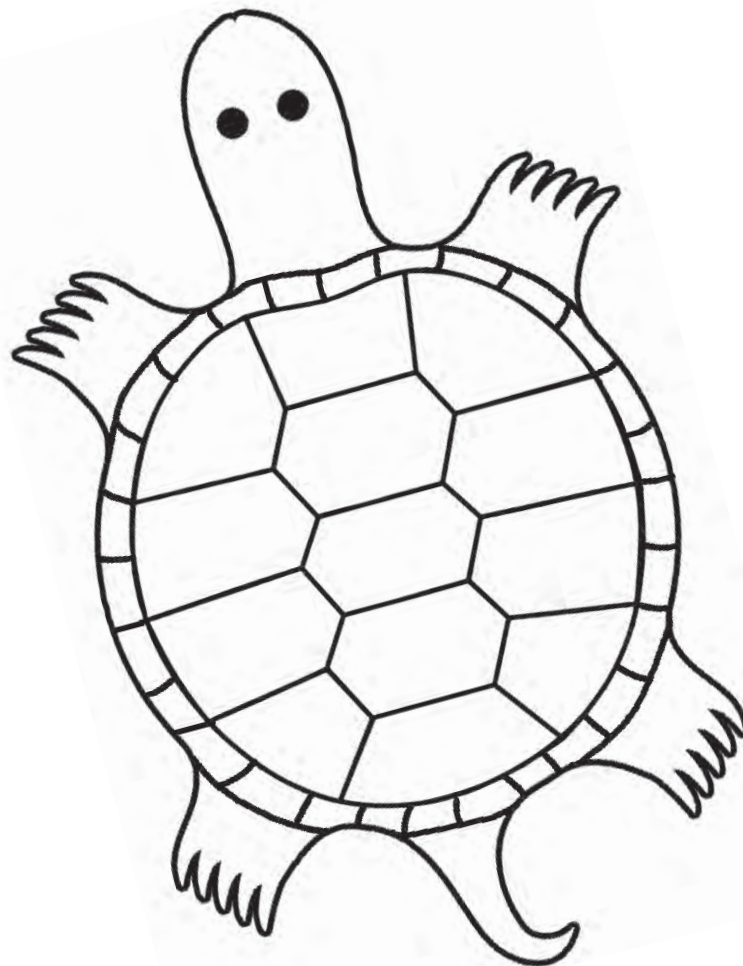
Turtle was really enjoying the flight and saw so many marvelous things! He wanted to tell the two geese about all the wonders he was seeing. He began mumbling, trying to talk around the stick.

He tried very hard to use his own claws to hang onto the branch, but they weren’t long enough to do it. The geese warned Turtle to be quiet. But suddenly he could contain himself no more. “Look!” he shouted. “It’s so . . .” And down, down he fell, landing right on top of some rocks. Crack, crack, crack went his beautiful shell.

Turtle was very scared and felt a little ashamed. He couldn’t get

upright off his back, and his back hurt. He called out to Creator for help - to be healed and to even stand up again. Creator agreed with some conditions. Turtle and all his descendants would remember the stories and teachings of the Creator, and share them in a good way. And Turtle’s shell would be a reminder of the natural order of the world, having 13 sections, one for each full face of Grandmother moon in a year, and 28 days in each moon cycle. And finally Turtle would forever carry his only home around on his back as a reminder that all anyone really has, is held within themselves - if they only learn to listen to the voice of the Creator.

And so it is that to this day Turtle is the Storyteller and keeper of the calendar of each year. He reminds us to understand the power of using our voices and to sound our voices carefully. And for all our follies, we have a gift to offer.



A year, one journey around the sun, takes Earth 365 days. There are 28 days between one full moon and the next. So dividing 365 by 28 we get 13 moon-ths in a year. And 13 shapes in the center of Turtle’s shell. All around the edge of the shell there are 28 shapes. Those shapes are called scutes and are made of the same tissue as horns and beaks and nails. The world is full of wonder!

A man is pulled over by a cop for speeding. He tries to make some small talk. “So how was your day?” The cop says, “Fine.”

Two mechanics were making small talk about what happens when an engine is running but the car is in park. You know, just some idle banter.

Have you heard of that new movie, “Constipation?” Well it doesn’t matter, it never came out.

When Queen Elizabeth farts, everyone in the room must pretend like nothing happened. Noble Gasses don’t cause reactions, after all.

Why do nerds wear glasses? It helps with division.
19 and 20 got into a fight. 21

Your name and colors: Why having a spirit name is important for a good life

Everything in Creation has a name. The trees, animals, plants, fish, water and air all have names. When we receive our spirit name, we know who we are in Creation. We are able to identify ourselves when we communicate with the spirit of each thing in Creation.

A spirit name is important for a good beginning, strong prayers and the good life. A spirit name is important for personal protection against sickness and disease. When you have your spirit name, which may be referred to as your Indian name or simply as your name, your communication with the spirit world is strengthened. When the spirits that we talk to and have been given to us hear our name, they see everything about us. They see our life, our future and who we are, and when we offer tobacco to them, they can guide us.

Elders and Healers say that when your spirit comes to this world, your name and your colors follow you to the spirit door. It is said that our spirit name is the name we had before we came to this world. Spirit names are said to be ancient and some of these names are the names of our ancestors.

Your spirit name is said to be 50 percent of your healing and balance because, with it, you know who you are, you know where you belong, you know where you are going and you know where you came from.

Receiving your spirit name

Before the arrival of the newcomers, Native people had a way of getting their name. This varied from nation to nation. Today, there are communities where the traditional ceremonies for the naming of babies are still held as they were for thousands of years.

In some communities, babies are given their spirit names when they are 2, 3 or 4 weeks old. An

Elder who has the ability and honor to give spirit names talks to the baby in their Native language and the baby's spirit listens. The Elder explains to the baby what his or her name is and what it means to have that name. The baby hears and understands.

In some Longhouse traditions, a clan name is given to a baby. A Clan Woman who takes care of the names of her clan chooses a name that suits the character of a baby.

It is never too late to get your spirit name and colors. The spirits wait for you to come to them for a name. The Traditional people recognize that because of what has happened in our communities historically, many of us don't know the teachings and they will wait for us to come to them.

Today, we can offer tobacco to a Traditional Healer, Elder or Medicine Person who has the ability to call names and colors through the spirit door. We can also seek our name through the shaking tent ceremony. The person we ask to give us our name may use special songs to call on our name and colors.

Naming Ceremonies

Naming Ceremonies are held in some communities to announce a person's name. For example, in some Longhouse traditions, children born during the year are brought to the mid-winter or to the harvest festival to receive their names. A circle dance is performed, the father introduces the baby to the community, and the name is given.

In some Anishinaabe communities, the Naming Ceremony would be held before sundown. Food would be placed on a blanket on the floor. The child would be held by the parents facing the person who is going to name the infant. Then, taking the child, this person tells the child his or her

name, colors, spirit helpers and what offerings to make.

Many traditional people say that when you receive your name, you should announce it to the community and the Four Directions of the universe. Those attending the ceremony come up to you, shake your hand and call you by your name.

Your family gives out gifts to the people and everyone enjoys the feast you have prepared.

Often you will have three or four sponsors. Sponsors are like grandparents to you. When they accept responsibility for being your sponsor, they know it is for life, both yours and theirs. Your sponsors can be your relatives or others whom you respect.

Those who give names

A person who gives names has earned that right. He or she should know the spirit, ceremonies and the power that your name carries.

This person will be able to give you instructions on how to take care of your name and what your name means. People who give names say that the spirits give the name through them. We can express our gratitude to the person who gives us our name by our offering of tobacco and gifts.

Colors

Everything in Creation has a color that represents a certain type of power. For example, a spirit name such as "Bringer of the First Light" has to do with the morning, with the colors purple and yellow which are the first colors that appear in the morning. This is the time that this person would do ceremonies because at this time she will gain strength and gifts.

When you wear your colors, (i.e. ribbons) it is considered the Good Life that keeps you straight and walking in a good way.

Colors are as important as

your name. It is said that your colors should come with your name. They represent your powers, you receive guidance from them and they help you focus.

You can hang your colors in your room if you are on a healing journey. You can make your dancing regalia with your colors in beads and material.

Honoring your Name and Colors

You need to find a path to honor your spirit name. You can honor it through different ceremonies. You can make food offerings during the year for your name.

These can be monthly with the moon cycle or four times a year, at the changing of the seasons, or once a year.

Your colors are associated with your name and when you feast your name you are also including your colors.

Getting a referral

There are always those who present themselves as Healers, Elders or Medicine People who have not earned that title and may use the teachings and medicines in the wrong way. It is important for everyone, especially young people, to be aware of this and to exercise caution when they seek healing, teachings or advice. It is advisable to consult with people whom you trust to get referrals to respected and recognized Traditional Healers, Elders and Medicine People.

To obtain a referral to a Healer, Elder or Medicine Person in your area, or to make an appointment in the seven-county service area, call Sault Tribe Traditional Medicine at (906) 632-5200, option 9.

Special acknowledgement is given to the following Healers and Elders who contributed their knowledge and understanding of the traditions and culture in the preparation of the brochures from which this article was taken: Jake

Aguonia, Garnett Councillor; Harlan Downwind, Roger Jones, Rose Logan, Mary Louie, Dorothy Sam, Nelson (SugarBear) Shog-nosh, Geraldine Standup and Ella Waukey.

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Traditional Medicine Program March Clinics

Please call for questions or to set up an appointment.

Gerard Sagassige Sault Ste. Marie Health Center—March 1, 7, 9, 14, 16, 21, 23, 28 and 30; Lori Gambardella, (906) 632-0236

Manistique Health Center—March 2; (906) 341-8469, (866) 401-0043

St. Ignace Health Center—March 8; (906) 643-8689, (877) 256-0135

Hessel Community Center—March 15; (906) 484-2727

Munising Health Center—March 22; (906) 387-4721, (800) 236-4705

Newberry Community Center—March 29; (906) 293-8181

ZIISBAAKDOKE GIIZIS - MAPLE SUGAR MAKING MOON - MARCH 2022

NIIZHWAASO GIIZHIGAT	NTAM GIIZHIGAT	NIIZHO GIIZHIGAT	NSWO GIIZHIGAT	NIIWO GIIZHIGAT	NAANO GIIZHIGAT	NGODWAASWO GIIZHIGAT
		1 Zhooshkwaade. (S/he is skating.)	2 Gii boonpwa. (It stopped snowing.)	3 Aambe daminadaa goon-genebik! (Let's go play snow snake!)	4 Giizhookonawen! (Dress warmly!)	5 Minisedaa. (Let's cut firewood.)
6 Mikoomiikaa. (There is lots of ice. It is icy.)	7 naabadin (crusted snow)	8 ninaatig (maple tree)	9 ziisbakadaaboo (maple sap)	10 Aagimase. (S/he is walking on snowshoes.)	11 ninaatig ziiwaagmide (maple syrup)	12 Gjibdan! (Taste it!)
13 Maadse gibeyiing giizhigat. (Daylight savings time begins.)	14 Skagamizige. (S/he is boiling down sap.)	15 ziisbaakadoonhs (maple candy)	16 shkode (fire)	17 Gchitwaa Pedii Giizhigat (St. Patrick's Day)	18 Mooshkaneshin Dibiki Giizis (It is a full moon.)	19 Zhooshkwaade. (S/he is skating.)
20 Ntam Mnookomik (First day of spring)	21 kikoonhsag (pails)	22 Aapiji go gisinaa! (It is very cold!)	23 Zookpo. (It is snowing.)	24 Zhooshkwa. (It is slippery.)	25 goon (snow that has already fallen)	26 Noodin gwojing. (It's windy outside.)
27 Giziibiigininjiin. (Wash your hands.)	28 Biiskaan dengwe kaajigan. (Put on a mask.)	29 Goonkaa. (There is a lot of snow.)	30 goon nini (snowman)	31 Nigwaankwat. (It is cloudy.)		

March is celebrated as National Social Work Month

March is National Social Work Month, with National Social Work Day falling on Tuesday, March 15. A Social Worker's role is to change lives by supporting individuals and their families through difficult times and ensure that vulnerable people, including children and adults, are protected from harm. They also work to empower individuals to create positive change in their own lives and the lives of those around them.

The history of social work highlights pioneers that paved the way for the field of social work today. Ronald G. Lewis is among America's most influential social workers in Native American Social Work. Lewis

strived for social justice for Native Americans throughout his life, including advocating at the Wounded Knee stand-off in 1973 and at Alcatraz, becoming a psychiatric social worker and developing mental health programs for Indigenous communities in Oklahoma, holding the position of Director of the Fitzsimmon Army Medical Hospital in Denver, and working with returning Indigenous Vietnam Veterans.

Although social workers strive for social justice every day, we hope that March will be a time to celebrate the strides social workers have made throughout America's history, and continue to make every day.

The theme of this year's National Social Work Month is "The Time is Right for Social Work," with the National Association of Social Workers sharing that the nation is seeing an increase in individuals entering the social work field. As the United States continues to battle the COVID-19 pandemic, systemic racism, economic inequality, global warming and other crises, it has become more obvious that social workers are needed now more than ever.

The mission of the social work profession is rooted in a set of core values. These core values, embraced by social workers throughout the profession's history, are the foundation of social

work's unique purpose and perspective:

- Service
- Social Justice
- Dignity And Worth of the Person
- Importance of Human Relationships
- Integrity
- Competence

This constellation of core values reflects what is unique to the social work profession. Core values, and the principles that flow from them, must be balanced within the context and complexity of the human experience.

During the month of March we would like to celebrate our social workers. Did you know that Sault Tribe Behavioral

Health has 16 social workers that are located at the Sault Ste. Marie Health Center, St. Ignace Health Center, Manistique Health Center and Munising Health?

They provide a wide range of services, such as Auricular Acupuncture; Individual, Couples, Family and Group Therapy; Crisis Intervention / Urgent Care; Recovery Support; Play Therapy; Gambling Treatment Services; Continuing Care Counseling; and Alcohol / Drug Education and Awareness.

If you are seeking Behavioral Health Services, please reach out to the Sault Tribe Behavioral Health Program at (906) 635-6075 or toll-free (800) 726-9105.

National Missing Persons Day helps solve cases

BY SAULT TRIBE ADVOCACY RESOURCE CENTER

The loss of a person can truly be the greatest pain that someone could experience. National Missing Persons Day, on Feb. 3 this year, raises awareness about all the missing person cases that are still unsolved. It encourages people to be on the lookout for missing people, to share their names and photos and to help return them to their families.

Law Enforcement agencies are able to gain a lot of insightful and life-saving information via the calls and emails that they receive on this awareness day. This

awareness day has proven truly effective in helping to solve cases and pick up potential leads from such a wide audience.

Here are some facts about missing persons:

- Approximately 2,300 people go missing each day in the U.S.
- According to the FBI's National Crime Information Center (NCIC), there were nearly 87,500 active missing person reports as of Dec. 31, 2019.
- Youth under the age of 18 account for 35 percent of the records and 44 percent of the missing are under the age of 21.

— Police departments insist on the importance of timely reporting; you do not have to wait 24 hours.

— Missing persons records are retained indefinitely unless a missing individual is located or the reporting agency cancels the entry.

Ways we can observe Missing Persons Day:

- Check Missing Persons websites.
- Look at the local law enforcements and government official posts containing pictures of all the people who have gone missing to check if you might

recognize a face. Take your time; do not rush through them.

— If you recognize someone from the list, get in touch with the designated authorities and tell

them whatever you know.

— Use the hashtag #NationalMissingPersonsDay and #MissingPersonDay when you share a post on social media.

Our children are our future

There aren't enough culturally appropriate foster homes. This has resulted in some tribal children being placed in homes that do not share their cultural heritage or traditions. There is a desperate need for tribal foster care placements. Our children need nurturing adults in their life, especially during times when their families are experiencing a time of crisis. If you are interested in making a difference in a child's life and would like to ensure our children are engaged and connected with their culture and traditional values, consider becoming a foster parent. If you would like more information on becoming a foster parent, contact Anishnaabek Community and Family Services at (906) 632-5250, or by email at acfs-fosterhomes@saulttribe.com.

All Sites * Thursday, March 17

St. Patrick's Day

Receive a Lucky Pin*



Hot Seat Draws
5 p.m. - 9 p.m.



See Northern Rewards Club to register and for more details. Must earn 50 base points to qualify for promotion. *After earning 50 base points.

MANISTIQUE * ST. IGNACE * SAULT STE. MARIE * HESSEL * CHRISTMAS



SAULT STE. MARIE + ST. IGNACE
HESSEL + CHRISTMAS + MANISTIQUE
1-800-KEWADIN | KEWADIN.COM

CABIN FEVER

Saturdays in February

Win your share of up to \$46,100 CASH & Credits
Hot Seat Draws Start at 5 p.m.

\$3,000 MINI BINGO

Sault Ste. Marie | February 19 | 3 p.m.

Jackpot game \$1,000 CASH

50 SHADES OF GREEN

Saturdays in March

Win your share of up to \$34,000 CASH & Credits
Hot Seat Draws start at 5 p.m.

FEBRUARY RESTAURANT SPECIALS

DREAMCATCHERS & HORSESHOE BAY

Jumbo Cheese Ravioli & Italian Sausage | \$16.99

DREAMCATCHERS BREAKFAST SPECIALS

Abby's Postgame Favorite | \$7.99

Corned Beef Hash | \$8.98

Breakfast Skillet | \$9.99

TOURNAMENTS

KEWADIN REWARDS SLOT TOURNAMENT

Sault Ste. Marie | February 1 - March 29

Tuesdays 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Win up to \$300 CASH & 40,000 Bonus Points Prize Pool

VIDEO POKER TOURNAMENT

Sault Ste. Marie | March 25 - 27

Up to \$15,000 CASH / Bonus Points

SPIN TO WIN

St. Ignace | April 29 - May 1

Up to \$15,000 CASH / Bonus Points

Point requirements for all promotions. See Northern Rewards Club to register and for more details.

Anishinaabe writer starts *Indigenous Wire*

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Sault Tribe member and former Tribal Biz News Editor Rob Capriccioso has moved to an online platform called Substack, where he will continue his award-winning reporting on tribal issues. He recently launched Indigenous Wire, a newsletter and blog focused on Indigenous policy, sovereignty, politics and economics.

Capriccioso served as a senior editor at Tribal Business News, and as the D.C. bureau chief at Indian Country Today. He has also been a contributing writer at American Indian Report, News from Indian Country, PBS, NPR, Smithsonian Magazine, The New York Times, The New York Post, The Guardian, TMZ, Campaigns & Elections, Forbes, Politico, Inside Higher Ed, and more.

Win Awenen Nisitotung (WAN) asked Capriccioso some questions regarding his new venture. His responses are below.

WAN: How did you become involved with Substack?

RC: Substack is one of several rapidly growing newsletter platforms that have been created by major tech companies, including Facebook and Twitter, because they all see the vast potential to monetize journalism and writing — and even comics and movies — through such platforms. They are smart, tech-minded people who see the potential for these kinds of newsletter-based publications to disrupt traditional journalistic ad-driven and non-profit models by connecting writers, journalists and other creators directly with interested audiences, who want to subscribe to their work.

However, these tech people don't tend to know that Indigenous journalism is a rich area filled with important beats and stories — stories that many people are very much interested in, especially in today's culture. Thus, there are very few Indigenous voices on these platforms, and the lack of purposeful and meaningful inclusion has been disappointing, because our people should be part of the disruption going on in storytelling. Our people are natural storytellers. Our voices matter and we deserve to be recognized and heard on all platforms. It's happening in streaming entertainment, it's happening in literature, it's happening on social media, it's happening in politics. It's high time for it to be happening in new technology journalism as well.

Substack has generously worked with me to help me launch my own publication, called Indigenous Wire, on their tech platform. They were impressed with my long-time coverage of politics and policy issues facing Indigenous people, especially in terms of tribal-federal relations. They provided an initial advance and services through their Substack Pro program to help me grow the publication and I've been told that I'm the first Indigenous writer to get such a deal. So, it is very cool that they are working to be purposefully inclusive of Native voices on their platform, which we are not seeing at the other major news-

INDIGENOUS WIRE



Rob Capriccioso

letter places to date. I negotiated with Substack to be sure to allow Native-owned publications to be able to reprint, with permission, one article per week from my publication for free, as Native journalism outlets are always looking for fresh content, as they should be.

While Substack operates the technology that I use to publish my publication, Indigenous Wire is 100 percent Native owned, by me. Substack takes a portion of my subscriber revenues, and the rest goes toward my costs of running and growing the publication, helping me to create a new, intelligent nationwide outlet of Native journalism for readers who are interested in Indigenous politics, policy, media, economics and sovereignty.

WAN: What are your thoughts about starting something entirely brand new?

RC: It's a lot of work because you're not just focusing on reporting and writing the articles, which is my main expertise. You are focused on running a journalism business, which includes producing the articles and analysis and keeping up with the news, but also doing publicity and promotion, never-ending social media — @RobCapriccioso on Twitter — developing relationships, encouraging subscribers, doing plenty of financial paperwork and generally trying to make Native journalism succeed. There is some pressure to it, but it's exciting. I will always get to tell my kids that I was one of the first Native creators on one of these new major journalism tech platforms, and hopefully they will one day understand the significance.

WAN: Do you plan on expanding and hiring other writers?

RC: Popular publications on the Substack platform that have lots of paying subscribers have been able to expand to hire more writers. It would be very helpful to one day be able to afford to have a staff of writers and I hope that day comes sooner than later. The more, the merrier I will be.

WAN: Tell me about when you published your first newsletter, your subscriber growth and where you hope to see that go.

RC: Indigenous Wire launched on Jan. 3, 2022, and we already have close to 1,000 organic subscribers as of early February, plus many more people who regularly check into the website without being subscribers, but who want to get a general peek at what we're covering. That is a very

good start, exceeding expectations. We hope to keep steadily climbing by increasing the understanding of how this is new and unique and exciting for Native journalism — and getting people to understand the potential for future growth.

WAN: What is your main ideology and your goals for the newsletter?

RC: In short, I want to provide strong Native-focused journalism in areas that aren't covered well by the mainstream media and existing Native media on the national level.

WAN: How do you "find" your stories? Do you go out and about in D.C.? Or do you have contacts you stay in touch with daily, or both?

RC: There is so much going on in D.C. that affects our people, so there is never a lack of stories to tell. Indian stuff happens at all levels of the federal government, from the White House to Congress to the Supreme Court to the federal agencies to the advocates to grassroots protests and more. Like any good journalist, I have to be in touch with tons of people all the time in order to understand various topics and to report on them well so that my readers can hopefully learn something new.

WAN: Why is there a need for a newsletter focusing on Indigenous issues?

RC: Indigenous Wire is needed because the mainstream media continues to do a poor job at covering Native policy, politics,

media, economics and sovereignty issues. Native publications that can afford to do more work in this area tend to focus on advocacy. My work tends to be a little harder hitting, trying to cover the stories in a more nuanced, complete way. I think that's why people come to me to tell tougher stories and why readers have grown to know my work on a broader level. They all know that I'm going to try to dive in deep to try to tell strong, unique stories, fearlessly. I land interviews and scoops that no one else does, and there are good reasons for that.

WAN: Tell me about you, your awards, what you hope to accomplish in the future...

RC: My bio is here: <https://www.indigenouswire.com/about>. I've won many awards from the Native American Journalists Association over the years, including a general excellency in beat reporting award for my coverage of D.C. tribal-federal relations. I've also won an award from the Association for University and College Counseling Center Directors for my previous coverage of mental health issues on college campuses. Awards are fun and all, but reporting stories that well-funded mainstream publications miss and don't understand is always a bigger reward.

WAN: Anything else?

RC: I'd love to have more people from the Sault and our citizens at large subscribing to the publication, helping it to thrive and commenting on articles. We are the largest tribe east of the Mississippi, so connecting with each other online in a space created and owned by one of our own citizens would be especially exciting for me to see. Facebook and Twitter and Instagram and TikTok — all owned by rich, large, non-Indian compa-

nies with their own motives that sometimes go against Native values — shouldn't be our only spaces to connect online. We need to create our own unique places and make them our own. Everyone can visit Indigenous Wire at indigenouswire.com. See you there!

Here are some insights from Capriccioso that were found on Indigenous Wire. "Coverage of Indigenous policy, political, media economic and sovereignty news in the mainstream press is atrocious," he said. America (and the world), according to Capriccioso, has ended up not knowing indigenous stories, not understanding the unique political standing of tribes and Native citizens, and most don't understand tribal sovereignty. "People generally don't know that Indians are in the Constitution, or that tribal-federal treaties are alive and kicking," he said.

"We need more Native journalists telling difficult stories that aren't being told by the mainstream. We need to be investigating and pressing the federal, state, local and tribal leaders who hold the purse strings and make the deals. We need to push for inclusion, to push for interviews, to push for everything needed to tell the most challenging stories. We need to analyze the news, in the service of both tribal and non-tribal citizens, so we don't perpetuate the dangerous ignorance that has resulted from the status quo," he said.

"In covering Indian Country for over two decades, it has been my experience that when people talk out loud, they get the most results. Being quiet is not in the best interests of tribes," Capriccioso said.

Follow Capriccioso on Twitter @RobCapriccioso and on LinkedIn, or email him at rob@indigenouswire.com.

You can find Indigenous Wire at: www.indigenouswire.com/

TRIBAL MEMBER REGISTRATION IN THE TAX AGREEMENT AREA

TRIBAL MEMBERS' RESPONSIBILITIES

(Including the Issuance of Certificates of Exemptions)

INITIAL REGISTRATION AND OR CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Under the Tax Agreement between the Tribe and the State, tribal members who live within the "Agreement Area" are able to claim exemption from certain state taxes. In order to take advantage of these benefits, the member must be registered with the Tribal Tax Office and must prove that they do live in the "Agreement Area."

The registration process begins with the member filling out an "Address Verification Card" and providing their name, address, and other personal information. The member must also provide a copy of their MI driver's license, MI State ID card, or voter's registration card. All of these forms of State identification MUST have the member's current address and that address must be located in the Tax Agreement Area. Members must also include a utility bill in their name and their current address as an additional proof of residency in the Tax Agreement Area.

The Tribal Tax Office cannot register a member with the MI Department of Treasury unless these documents are included with the "Address Verification Card."

CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTIONS

Tribal Code 43.1103 states that Resident Tribal Members shall notify the Tribal Tax Office in writing prior to moving their principal place of residence.

If the Tribal Tax Office receives a request for a Certificate of Exemption and the address for the member on the request is not the same as the address that the Tribal Tax Office and MI Department of Treasury have on record, then no Certificate of Exemption can be issued.

We will usually attempt to contact the member to ask them to update their address by filling out the "Address Verification Card" and providing the required documents, but it is the member's responsibility to provide this information. A Certificate of Exemption cannot be issued unless the member has filed the correct information proving that they live within the Agreement Area.

Bayliss Public Library has memory kits available

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Bayliss Public Library Marketing and Adult Programming Coordinator Natalie Nowak researched how to build memory kits for individuals with dementia, Alzheimer's, or other forms of memory loss, applied for and received a small grant from the Chippewa County Community Foundation to cover the cost of four kits.

According to Nowak, a memory kit is a collection of materials and media centered around a theme that is often used by individuals with memory loss. The kits help stimulate positive memories and offer the person and their companion something to share and talk about.

Elders with forms of dementia and other individuals with memory loss benefit from memory kits, but so can many others who face physical or mental challenges. Those with

an increased sensory response may benefit from the sensory materials in the kits. Families who are looking to discover an activity together, or who would like to take something home to do together, would also greatly benefit from these kits. Individuals must have a disability to check out the kits. The kits also include resources and support specifically meant for caregivers.

Nowak said that located next to the kits are a few large-print easy-reading books. "These kinds of books are a relatively quick read and purposefully have more accessible language so that individuals with lower reading levels can read them. They can also be utilized by those with memory loss, or those just looking for an easy read," she said.

Each kit contains at least one book (these books also

contain pictures so that they are easier to comprehend), a different book in each kit for the caregiver, a notebook to write suggestions in or positive memories from checking out the kits, a folder with conversation prompts, activity ideas, brochures and flyers for resources, several sensory items, at least one media item (this varies from kit to kit – DVD, CD, audiobook, etc.), and at least one hands-on activity (for example, a painting kit or a large collection of baseball cards).

The kits can be checked out for three weeks at a time. They cannot be sent via inter-library to other libraries, but patrons from each Superior District Library branch can come to Bayliss to check them out. Kits must be returned to Bayliss. Nowak said that when she moved to Sault Ste. Marie, she quickly realized that the Sault

and Eastern Upper Peninsula areas are lacking in providing services and accessibility to elders and individuals with disabilities. "I began small and started with displays and eventually small programs aimed specifically at awareness and for providing resources," she said. "Once I started in this coordinator position, I knew I wanted to focus some of my efforts on the underserved in our communities."

When Nowak began visiting residents at Freighter View Assisted Living for a storytelling program, the Children's Librarian at Bayliss suggested using memory kits. "She planted the idea in my head and then I just took off with it."

Nowak said that she would like to acknowledge all the support she received while working to put the kits together. "A big thank you to Lynne Wiercinski,

the director at Ironwood Carnegie Library, for working with me and offering ideas from her own memory kits. I am very grateful for Chippewa County Community Foundation and their eagerness to fund this project – they are the reason these kits exist! I would also like to highlight several staff members at Bayliss who were a big part of this project: Sabrina, Angie, John, Meredith, Pam, and Lisa – thank you all for your support, suggestions and help," she said.

Nowak posted a video on the library's Facebook page explaining the memory kits and examines the contents of the animal memory kit. You can watch the video by copying and pasting this link into your web browser: <https://www.facebook.com/watch/BPL541/>.

Nowak can be contacted at nnowak@superiordistrictlibrary.org, or (906) 632-9331.

MSU Extension to offer Tai Chi via Zoom

Michigan State University Extension is excited to offer a new option for tai chi starting in March 2022. MSU Extension Tai Chi for Balance, Body and Spirit is the fall prevention set we have been so successfully offering free of charge, around the state, via Zoom. The MSU Extension Tai Chi for Balance, Body and Spirit has been scheduled late afternoon/early evening to make this motion lotion available to those who are working days or who are best suited to late day exercise.

The first part of this program is using tai chi to build physical strength and flexibility, and to become balanced physically and mentally. The tai chi series of movements, Tai Chi for Fall Prevention, is a proven and enriched program of warm up exercises and movement sequences in an innovative teaching format. In 1996, Dr. Lam with a team of medical and Tai Chi experts created this safe and

easy to learn program for all ages.

The second part of this programming is a commonsense approach to mindfulness that looks at how to destress and build a practice of mindfulness using strategies that will fit your lifestyle. Learn easy, practical changes you can live with.

MSU Extension Tai Chi for Balance, Body and Spirit will be offered online via Zoom on Mondays and Wednesdays starting March 14, and going through May 13, 2022. Time is set for 5 p.m. Central, 6 p.m. Eastern Time. You will need video and audio capabilities on your computer, laptop or tablet.

This program is free, but please be sure to register at <https://events.anr.msu.edu/taichiforbalance2022/>.

If you have questions or need help to register, call or email Anita Carter carte356@msu.edu, (906) 360-9732.

MSU Extension to host Agriculture for Tomorrow Conference March 9

Michigan State University Extension is hosting the 15th annual Agriculture for Tomorrow Conference on March 9, 2022, at Bay College in Escanaba, Michigan, to help Upper Peninsula farmers and homesteaders stay informed, up to date and profitable.

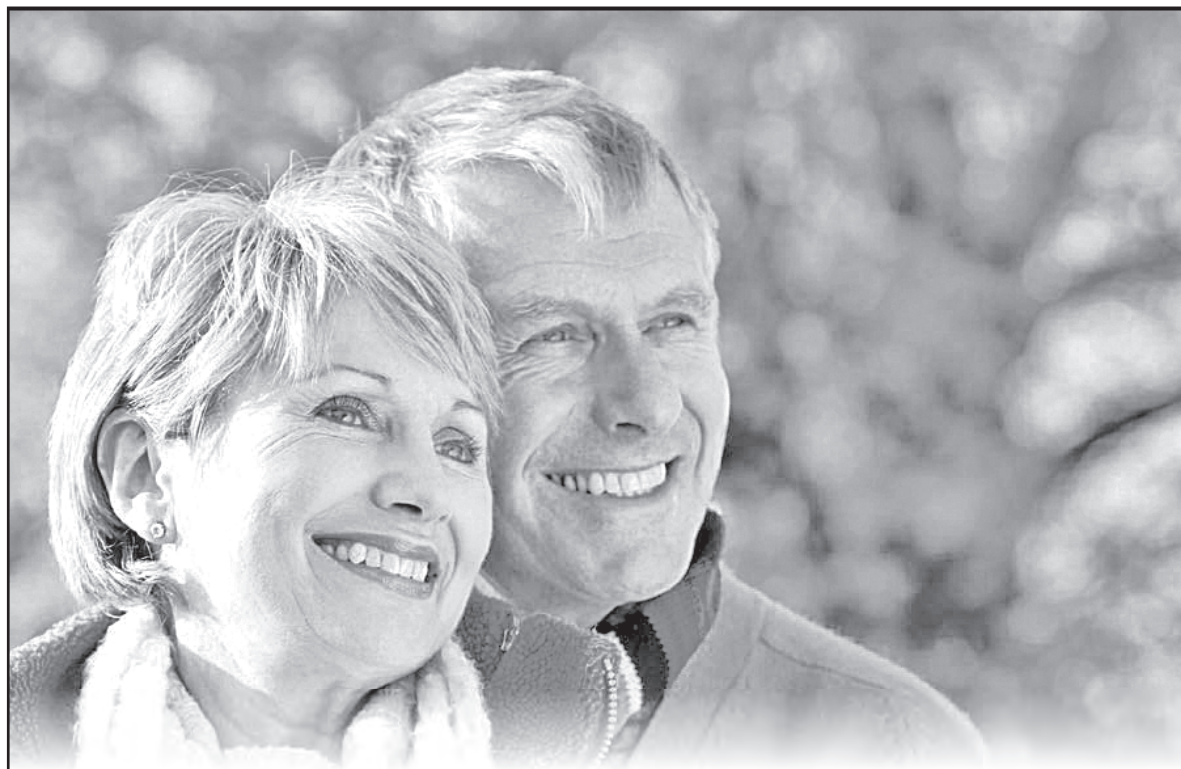
The conference will open with a keynote address from Abbey Palmer of MSU Extension and Lori Wardynski, agriculture instructor with Ontonagon/Gogebic Intermediate School District. The keynote address will focus on the recent growth of agriculture education in Upper Peninsula K-12 schools.

Participants can then attend their choice of four concurrent breakout tracks focused on specialty crops, field crops and forage, homesteading and livestock topics. Presentations will

include information on vegetable varieties, hemp production, food safety, technical and financial assistance resources for food entrepreneurs, Upper Peninsula climate trends, hay and pasture management, the 2022 fertilizer outlook, maple syrup, beekeeping, invasive species, seed saving, beef finishing systems, and new livestock technologies.

For more information about the conference, or to register, please visit 2022 Agriculture for Tomorrow Conference. Those interested in sponsoring the event or exhibiting at the tradeshow are asked to contact Paul Naasz at naasz@msu.edu or (906) 439-5114.

This article was published by Michigan State University Extension. For more information, visit <https://extension.msu.edu>.



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SAULT STE. MARIE TRIBE OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS

NOTICE OF ELECTION

JANUARY 28, 2022

The Election Committee of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians would like to inform you that a tribal election will be held for the Tribal Board of Directors this year; with a primary held in spring and the general election held this summer. Below are important dates and information pertaining to the election.

The timetable for the election process is as follows: (All deadlines are 5 p.m. ET).

- March 24Deadline for voter registration. Last day to receive Letter of Intent for potential candidates. Roll of registered voters prepared and posted. Nomination petitions available.
- April 13Nominating petition deadline.
- April 20List of eligible candidates available.
- April 25Deadline for contests relating to nominations and voter registration.
- April 28Blank primary ballots mailed to voters.
- May 19.....Primary election date.
- May 23.....Deadline for contests relating to vote count.
- June 1.....Blank ballots for general election mailed to voters.
- June 23.....General Election day.
- June 27.....Deadline for contest relating to vote count.

OFFICERS TO BE ELECTED

Unit 1: -2 members-

Unit 3: -1 member-

Unit 2: -1 member-

Unit 4: -1 member-

Unit 5: -1 member-

The term of all officers will be four years.

VOTING PROCEDURE:

All ballots will be mailed to registered voters by first class mail. In order to be counted, ballots must be received by the Tribal Election Committee by 5:00 p.m. at the United States Post Office-Sault Ste. Marie location on May 19, 2022 for the primary election and on June 23, 2022 for the general election. A Post Office Box is provided by the United States Post Office for return of the ballots. The address of the box will be included on the ballot.

Address Correction Requested:

The election will be conducted by mail to the address shown in the Tribal Registrar’s records. It is the responsibility of the tribal member to ensure that the address shown for him or her is correct. Please contact the Tribal Registrar’s Office for any changes: Tribal Registrar’s Office, 2428 Shunk Road, Mailing address: P.O. Box 1628, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 phone: (906) 632-8552 or (800) 251-6597.

NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES:

Any tribal member who meets the requirements detailed in The Tribal Election Ordinance is eligible for election to office. A candidate for nomination must be eighteen years of age or older by June 23, 2022, a qualified voter, and have established one year residency within the Election Unit which they seek to represent. Any member; who holds appointed/elected position in another unit of government, has been convicted of election fraud, misdemeanors involving gambling, theft, dishonesty or fraud, or a felony offense is ineligible for election to office. Any person elected shall voluntarily resign employment position and/or surrender any rights under any contract with the Tribe prior to assuming office. To be nominated, a candidate must file a letter of intent, background investigation forms, nominating petition, campaigning financing forms, etc. with the Tribal Election Committee in accordance with the Election Ordinance. A nomination petition must bear the

original signatures of the proper number of registered voters from the unit to be represented. A voter may sign only as many petitions as there are offices to be filled from their unit. Petitions must be submitted on the forms provided by the Election Committee obtained at the designated offices.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Finance Reporting: The Election Committee requires candidates and others who expend money on the election to file reports on campaign fundraising and spending. If you plan to spend money on the election, you must contact the Election Committee to obtain the proper forms before doing so. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in criminal prosecution.

Election Contests and

Complaints: Any tribal member may raise election disputes before the Election Committee. All disputes must be stated in writing, addressed to the Chairperson of the Election Committee, contain

the original signature and received under procedures provided in the Election Ordinance. The Election Committee will review disputes according to the Election Ordinance.

Election Ordinance: This letter is a narrative statement of the requirements of the Election Ordinance and the Constitution. Any discrepancies the Election Ordinance and Constitution are controlling and superlative. Questions regarding the election should be directed to the Tribal Election Committee.

Designated Offices: Designated Offices are the tribal offices as to which additional election material is available and for delivery of correspondence. Each designated office is defined in the Election Ordinance. Please note: Unit 1 the designated office shall be The Tribal Court Office, located at the George Nolan Judicial Building, and Unit 3 shall be the Human Resource Office, located at 3015 Mackinac Trail.

Walking on...

BRADLY J. HOUGHTON

Bradly J. Houghton, 37, of Kincheloe, Mich., passed away on Jan. 15, 2022.

Brad had a big heart and cared about others. He gave the best hugs.



He was always willing to lend a hand. He loved playing sports, especially basketball. He also enjoyed playing video games, writing music and spending time with family and friends. Brad will be missed by all those who loved him.

He is survived by his mother, Sharon Houghton (Paul Vas) of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.; his sister, Ashly Fink (Kyle) of Sacramento, Calif.; his half-brother, Jordan Jackson Houghton of Sault Ste. Marie; and many aunts, uncles and cousins, too many to list. He is also survived by a niece and a nephew.

Brad was preceded in death by his father, William V. Houghton of Kincheloe.

A special thank you to Patty Teeples for organizing Brad's Native American ceremonial fire; Robyn Ruddy and Rich Willis for hosting the fire; Tony Grondin for performing the closing ceremony, and all those who helped maintain the fire.

Graveside services will be held at the Naubinway Cemetery in May, the date to be decided.

C.S. Mulder Funeral Home and Cremation Services assisted with arrangements. Condolences may be left online at www.csmulder.com.

CECIL L. JONES JR.

Cecil (Casey) Lee Jones Jr., 63, of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., passed away unexpectedly in his home on Monday Dec. 13, 2021. Casey was born July 24, 1958, in Sault Ste. Marie, to Cecil Jones Sr., and the late Nancy (Killips) Jones.

Casey graduated from Sault Area High School in 1976. Casey was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and was employed by the tribe's Housing Authority. There will be a burial for Casey in the spring at Riverside Cemetery. Clark Hovie Galer Funeral Home assisted the family with arrangements.

He is survived by his father Cecil Jones Sr., brother Patrick (Lynne) Jones, sister Nancy (Sean) Beebe, nephews Justin (Candace) Sharpe and Devon (Starr Fonseth) Pieper, nieces Hali Beebe (Michael) Murphy and Kelli Jones.

He was preceded in death by his mother Nancy Jones and his niece Sara Beebe.

CHARLES FOREST SLIGER

Charles Forest Sliger, age 86 of Covington, Mich., passed away Oct. 13, 2021, at U.P. Health System in Marquette, Mich.

He was born Feb. 9, 1935 in Trout Creek, Mich., the son of



Fred and Lauretta (Aslin) Sliger. Charlie graduated from Trout Creek High School in 1952. After high school he sailed on the Great Lakes for a few years then served in the U.S. Army from 1960-64. He then went to work at the Cleveland Cliffs mine. He was the Baraga County Veterans Service Officer helping many veterans for over 10 years, retiring in 2015. Charlie married the former Helen Tarvainen on Sept. 29, 1956; she passed away in 2003. He then married the former Sharlene Franti on Nov. 3, 2006.

He was a member of Bethany Lutheran in Covington, AM Vets, Friends of 494 in Trout Creek, and Baraga Legion Honor Guard. Charlie enjoyed gardening, reading, wintering in Texas, and loved to visit with people and have company over.

Surviving are his wife Sharlene Sliger of Covington; siblings, Nancy Aho-Fugate of Iron River, Fred (Priscilla) Sliger of Trout Creek, John (Doreen Takola) Sliger of Big Bay; step daughters, Lisa (George) Karcher of Covington, Anne (John) Tikkanen of Belgrade, MT, Lynn (Mike Shiroda) LaTendresse of Chassell; grandchildren, Casey Sliger of Kalamazoo, Cierra Sliger of Amasa, Caleb Sliger of Watton, Seth Sliger of Mich.; step grandchildren, Jordan (Cassie) LaTendresse of Grand Rapids, Steve (Megan) LaBerge of Eagan, Minn., Shelby (Tyler) Fredricks of Remus, Mich.; great grandchildren, Chevy, Issa, Teagan; and numerous nieces and nephews. Preceding him in death are his parents; first wife Helen; son Charles "Little Charlie"; brother Bill; and infant sister Mary Margaret.

A memorial service was held Oct. 23, 2021, at Jacobson Funeral Home with Rev. Richard Little officiating. The Baraga County Area Veterans conducted military rites at the Covington Cemetery. Jacobson Funeral Home assisted the family. Friends may sign Charlie's guest book or send condolences at www.jacobsonfuneralhome.com.

GLENDA MAY HOWSE

Glenda May Howse, 75, of Manistique, Mich., passed away peacefully with her family at her side on Jan. 28, 2022. She was born Oct. 2, 1947, in Muskegon, Mich., the daughter of Glenn and Shirley (Miron) Love. She attended Reeth Puffer school in Muskegon, Mich., and graduated high school from there. She attended beautician school after graduation.

Glenda married John Wesley Howse Jr. on May 18, 1967, in Muskegon, Mich. She worked at Wilbrant Farms in Muskegon as a greenhouse attendant and Wyman nursery in Manistique. Glenda spent half of her life in Muskegon, moving to Manistique in 1988. She was able to spend precious time with her mom Shirley who lived in Manistique as well. She was of Catholic faith, attending St. Francis de



Sales. She liked gardening, planting flower gardens, working in her yard, playing bingo and going to the casinos. Glenda was a devoted mother, grandmother, and caregiver.

Glenda is survived by her sons, John Howse III of Manistique, Mich., Jerry (Gen Faulkner) Howse of Green Bay, Wisc., and David (Shelly Gierke) Howse of Manistique, Mich.; brother Duane (Barb) Love of Hart, Mich.; sister Patty (Roger) Russell of Muskegon, Mich.; 8 grandchildren, Tyler, Kyle, Ashley, David, Tayler, Thomas, Morgann, Annabella; and 4 great-grandchildren, Scarlet, Piper, Leira, and Reyna. She is preceded in death her parents, husband John Wesley, brothers Glenn Love, Donald Love, Gordon Miron, and great-granddaughter Mylie May-Marie.

Memorial contributions can be sent to the family for future designations. Fausett Family Funeral Homes of Manistique assisted the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be posted on their website at www.fausettfh.com.

SHELLY ANN MASTAW-PAYMENT

Shelly Ann Mastaw-Payment, 56, passed away on Wednesday, Jan. 19, 2022, at War Memorial Hospital in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. Shelly was born on March 25, 1965, in Sault Ste. Marie, to William J. and Mary D. (Bell) Mastaw.

Shelly was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. She always made people laugh and smile and had the most infectious laugh of any human being you ever met. Everyone who knew Shelly, loved her. She loved to visit with her family and friends and tell a joke to make you blush a time or two. She loved to tell stories and spend time with her grandkids. She had endless love for her children and grandchildren, and they were her pride and joy. Anytime there was a community event, Shelly always made the time to volunteer. She was especially known for her Indian tacos and fry bread. Shelly also loved to run the roads — one minute she would be down south visiting family or friends or way west just going for a drive. That's why her father call her "Rambling Rose." Along her travels she loved to shop at yard sales and thrift stores. Goodwill, Salvation Army, and St. Vincent were her favorite stores. She also spent her fair share of time with her sister Ronda at the casino.

She is survived by her children Michael Dotson (Michelle Sibbald), Amber Vassar, Kevin Keenan (Amanda Vergara), her grandchildren Rylan, Alecander, Deacon, Riley, Jaydin, Julianna, Aralyn, siblings Harvey (Lisa) Bell, Diane (Foster) Boutilier, Wayne (Annette) King, William I. Mastaw, Ronda (George) Mastaw, brother-in-law Ken Savoie, her dear Aunt Mary Bell, and significant other, Lloyd Peacock.



Shelly was preceded in death by her parents, sister Linda Savoie, and sister-in-law Cheryl Mastaw.

Shelly has many nieces, nephews, and cousins that she loved dearly. Shelly's dear friends include Doreen Ogle, Julie Feldman, Maureen Weller, Pam Perry, Elizabeth Michalski, Barb Dietz, Tina Holley, Courtney McLeod and the late Beth Miller.

Thank you to MyMichigan Medical Center Med Surg Nursing Staff and especially Dr. Ockenfels for their support.

Thank you to Rev. Nicholas Thompson from St. Mary's Church, Rev. Dominic Yamoah from St. Isaac Jogues Church, and Mulder Funeral Home for taking care of our funeral arrangements.

Chi miigwech to the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians for the donations and support.

Thank you and miigwech to all the love and support we have received during this very difficult time from family and friends.

We truly appreciate the visits, prayers, food, flowers, donations, cards and kind words. We appreciate all of you.

Cremation has already taken place and burial will take place in July 2022.

JOHN JOSEPH VILLEMURE

John Joseph Villemure, 61, of Manistique, Mich., died in the early morning of Jan. 31, 2022, at his home. John was born Dec. 31, 1960, in Manistique, the son of Philip and Mary Villemure.



He graduated from St. Francis de Sales School and Manistique High School. He also attended Lake Superior State College. John worked at Manistique Dimension for 12 years and then Kewadin Casino for 23 years. He was Johnny V. to coworkers and customers working as a dealer and up to shift manager.

John was an active Catholic, very involved at his home parish of St. Francis de Sales. Through the years he served on the parish council, was a lector, eucharistic minister, leader of the Remnant of God Prayer Group, and lead many bible study groups. He was involved in the charismatic renewal in local and state leadership. He worked at retreats such as Teens Encounter Christ and Koinonia at many places in Wisconsin and Michigan.

John enjoyed fishing year round. He was a bird and deer hunter. He enjoyed a good game of cards and dominoes with friends and family. He enjoyed Villemure gatherings here and at Newberry. He was a high school basketball fan and loved March Magic, making over 40 yearly trips to the state finals. John was loved by many for his gentle, good ways.

John is survived by his brothers, Philip (Jackie Casey) Villemure of Winter Haven, Fla., Paul (Ann Sangraw) Villemure of Manistique; sisters, Sister Jan Villemure of Green Bay, Wisc., and Joan (George) Ecclesine of Manistique; nephews, Kieran

(Kristine Richey) Ecclesine and Brian Ecclesine. John was preceded in death by his parents and nephew, Matthew Villemure.

John lost a long, hard battle of addiction. He told Fr. Ben two weeks ago, "I'm going to beat this." Our loving and merciful God had a home ready for him. Now he sees God face to face, free from suffering and whole again.

Visitation was held July 6, 2021, at St. Francis de Sales, Manistique, Mich., followed by Mass of Christian Burial. Memorial contributions may be sent to the Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity, 2409 S. Alverno Rd., Manitowoc, Wisc., 54220 or made to a charity of your choice.

Fausett Family Funeral Homes of Manistique, Mich., assisted the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be posted on their website at www.fausettfh.com.

KEVIN J. CARR

Kevin John Carr "Spirtwalker," 69, passed into eternal life on Tuesday, Dec. 21, 2021, at his home in Kalamazoo, Mich., after his battle with lung cancer. His life partner, Debi Hamilton "Free Spirit," was by his side. Kevin was born on Oct. 19, 1952, in Pontiac, Mich.



He was survived by three children, Christina "Tina" (Patrick) E., Rachel (Jeff) H., and Rebecca "Becca" (Curtis) R; eight grandchildren and numerous nephews and nieces.

He was preceded in death by his parents John and Marcella Carr.

Kevin was an active member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and enjoyed attending powwows when his health allowed it. He was known for singing Karaoke "Elvis" and even recorded a few tapes in his younger years. We would like his family and friends to remember as difficult as times were, he always loved his entire family and all his friends.

Redmond Funeral Home assisted the eldest daughter with arrangements. Online condolences may be left at www.redmond-funeralhomes.net photo

RAYMOND COUNAYA

Raymond "Old Man Ray" Cournaya, 66, of Brown City, Mich., passed away Jan. 18, 2022 at Marlette Regional Hospital.

Raymond was born to the late Versal and Mary (Holmberg) Cournaya on July 27, 1955. Throughout his childhood, Raymond grew up in the U.P. of Michigan. He married the love of his life, Renee



See "Walking on," page 17

Sault High students form Native Youth Council

Sault High Native Youth Council consists of 17 members between all grade levels. The Native Youth Council is working on “bringing a face to Native youth,” and broadening the Indigenous presence throughout Sault High. The current members are setting a foundation for the future of Native Youth Council. So far, NYC has done various activities throughout the

school, such as heritage month, incorporating Indigenous foods into the school lunch program, making educational posters for each food and a bulletin board that highlights different topics for each month. All members are either enrolled members or Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians or Bay Mills Indian Community or eligible for enrollment with a federally recognized tribe.



Brynn Jannetta



Grace TenEyck



Marie Sayles



Samantha Hale



Pictured left to right, Sault Tribe members: Ella McKerchie, Gabrielle Woodard, Laura Innerebner, Sophia Driedric (President), Chelsea McLeod, Jocelyn Nolan, Jada Hall-Pine (Historian), Mackenzie Bell, Tessa Miller, Kenedy Hagan (Secretary), Julie Innerebner, Isabella DeWildt (Vice President, Bay Mills Indian Community) and Gabrielle Killips. Not Pictured: Grace TenEyck (Treasurer), Marie Sayles, Brynn Jannetta (Wiikwemkong) and Samantha Hale.



January Bulletin Board ~ Biboon Kidwin ~ Winter Words



Helping Native Families in Michigan Increase Assets via Homeownership and Entrepreneurship

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Sault Tribe Traditional Medicine Program Gerard Sagassige 2022 March Clinic Hours

March 1, 7, 9, 14, 16, 21, 23, 28, 30
Sault Ste. Marie Health Center
(906)632-0236 Lori Gambardella

March 2nd
Manistique Health Center
(906)341-8469 or (866) 401-0043

March 8th
St. Ignace Health Center
(906)643-8689 or (877)256-0135

March 15th
Hessel Community Center
(906)484-2727

March 22nd
Munising Health Center
(906)387-4721 or (800)236-4705

March 29th
Newberry Community Health Center
(906) 293-8181

Any Questions, Please Call Traditional Medicine Program - 906-632-0236

Dental Program gets first renovation since Sault Tribe Health Center opened in 1995

Renovations to the Sault Tribe Dental Program on the second floor of the Sault Tribe Health Center on Ashmun St. in Sault Ste. Marie are complete. The work started in

June 2021 and finished Dec. 6, 2021. Dental Program Manager David A. Drockton DDS said the remodeling was “a long time coming.” This is the first redesign

since the building’s opening in April 1995. The 4,000 square foot Dental suite was unable to expand its space; instead, it was made more efficient. “We were very fortunate

to be able to do what has been done so far,” Drockton said. While the renovation was taking place, Dental worked out of the health center’s

first floor auditorium, which was redesigned for that purpose. New operatories were installed, plus an additional operatory — from eight to

nine. All are self-enclosed, using vacuum and other methods to clean and disinfect. The vacuum was moved up here from the ground floor, said Drockton. UV lights and

blinds have been installed throughout the entire Dental suite and airflow has been increased. The offices have been rearranged and streamlined for better workflow.

Limited COVID money was used for specific disinfection purposes. The bulk of the funding came from third party revenue, said Drockton.



Renovated hallway.



Renovated bathroom



Renovated operatory



Dr. Drockton disinfects an operatory to see how long it takes to complete.



Hallway in the midst of renovation



New bathroom going in.



Installing all the new features in the operatories.



A UV light blasting system installed in each operatory.

Sault Tribers compete in new snowsnake event

The first Inter-Tribal Nations Mooningwanaakaning Snow Snake Festival with Traditional Games and Teaching took place Saturday, Feb. 5, 2022, at Joni's Beach in LaPointe, Wis., in Lake Superior. The event started out as a small group, but due to interest, grew into a larger invitational drawing in various nations includ-

ing locals from Bahweting (Sault Ste. Marie) and Gnoozhekaning (Bay Mills).

Sault Tribe competitors included Lori Gambardella and Larry Jacques. Bay Mills members attending were Jesse Bowen, Mason Cameron, Joe Shaw and Jalyn (Goo) LeBlanc. Sault Tribe's Traditional Practitioner

Gerard Sagassige Giizis, from Curve Lake First Nation Territory, Canada, attended in support. Offerings to the fire were made to activate the snow snakes with a feast.

The men's under 54 division first place went to Jon Greendeer, a member of the Ho-Chunk Nation. The second furthest

throw in the men's category was Larry Jacques.

"I went over with zero expectation to do as well as I did. I hoped to learn about the style of throwing and the style of sticks from our relations in Wisconsin and Minnesota," Jacques said.

He added, "The camaraderie of the group, the spirit of the

event, the work of the organizers and volunteers and the historic location made the event special and extremely memorable."

To get to the event location, all of the competitors had to drive their vehicles across a 2-mile ice bridge on Lake Superior.



Sault Tribe member and employee Larry Jacques had the second farthest snow snake toss in the men's category.



Lori Gambardella, Larry Jacques and Gerard Sagassige Giizhis at the snow snake festival in LaPointe, Wis.

Head Start & Early Head Start kids snowshoe!

BY DANIELLE KAMINSKI, FAMILY SERVICE COORDINATOR SAULT TRIBE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

On Jan. 27 Tammy Bumstead and Danielle Kaminski (Family Service Coordinators) put on

a snowshoeing event with the Sault Tribe Head Start and Early Head Start programs. The families arrived and we were able to fit all the kids and parents with the center's snowshoes. This was the first time snowshoeing

for the majority of the kids and parents. After we got all the families snowshoes fitted; we were able to start the hike out to the Big Bear trail. The families had a blast while snowshoeing, they worked together as a team, and

there was lots of laughter that happened. When the families returned to the school, all they talked about was how much fun they had and how this was the best day ever. It put a smile on our faces to see how much fun

the families had by being out in nature. We haven't been able to do any in-person events due to covid-19, so this was a real treat to be able to do a safe social distance outside event with our families.



On Jan. 27 Family Service Coordinators Tammy Bumstead and Danielle Kaminski put on a snowshoeing event with the Sault Tribe Head Start and Early Head Start programs. Above are some of the parents and children who participated in the family event.

JKL Teacher Amy McCoy's culture students support Abby Roque in Anishinabemowin



Students from JKL School made banners, pictures and posters in Anishinabemowin — hung in the front lobby of the Sault Tribe main office in tribute to Indigenous Olympic Hockey Player Abby Roque.

Walking on continued...

From "Walking on," page 12

Fuller, in 1974. During his working years, Raymond was employed by Trombley Excavating, where he was a truck driver. He also worked as a construction operator and a mechanic for many years. Raymond was a member of the Eagles Club in the U.P. In his free time, he enjoyed visiting friends and delivering presents for H.R.R.A. Christmas for kids. Raymond will be remembered as a provider for his family. He was a true family man, and loved being a grandpa.

He is survived by his wife of 46 years, Renee Cournaya; son, Ray Cournaya; daughter, Robin Cournaya; grandchildren, Devin Cournaya, Derrick Cournaya, Dillyn Robinson, Delanie Stanley, Tustin Cournaya, Nadrina Cournaya and Keaton Cournaya; siblings, Richard (Noreen) Cournaya, Patrick (Jean) Cournaya, Mike (Sandy) Cournaya and Betty (Jamie) Cournaya; as well as many nieces, nephews and extended family.

Raymond was preceded in death by his brother, Jerry Cournaya; and sister, Mary LaPratt.

A funeral service was held on Jan. 22, 2022, at Marsh Funeral Chapel in Marlette.

To make a memorial contribution in Raymond's memory, direct them to the family in care of Renee Cournaya.

Online condolence can be made at www.marshfuneral.com.

TERRY SYLVESTER

Terry Sylvester passed away on Saturday, Feb. 5, 2022, at the age of 79. He was born in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., on May 4, 1942, the son of the late Fred and Merle Sylvester.

He graduated from Pickford High School before joining the Military.

A proud U.S. Army Veteran and true patriot, Terry dutifully served his country for the majority of his life. He rose from the rank of Private to Captain. He completed three tours in Vietnam. He was awarded a Silver Star, two Bronze Stars and two Purple



Hearts. He was medically retired after spending nearly two years undergoing many surgeries and physical therapy for his injuries.

Following his military career, he continued serving his country while working in Civil Service at Robins Air Force Base, Ga. before retiring.

Terry was an avid fan of NASCAR and Alabama Football (ROLL TIDE!) where he had received his BS in Mathematics, and the Green Bay Packers. Those who knew him will remember his zest for life and the unconditional love he had for his family.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his former wife, Doris Jean Sylvester.

He is survived by his loving sons, Richard Sylvester, Josh Sylvester, Robert Mattingly (Lisa) and a daughter, Rose Marie Sylvester; seven grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and brothers, Jim Sylvester (Frances) and Dan Sylvester (Carol).

Terry was a proud member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, Feb. 12, 2022, at McCullough Funeral Home in Warner Robins, Ga., with Reverend Jeff Cleghorn officiating. Terry was laid to rest in Magnolia Park Cemetery next to Doris Jean.

JEANNETTE THERESA LAWSON,

Jeannette Theresa Lawson, 82, of Mackinaw City, Mich., died at McLaren Hospice House in Cheboygan, Mich., on Jan. 2, 2022.



Jeannette was born on Jan. 1, 1939, in Schaffer, Mich., to Francis and Yvonne Cody (Auger) Vanderberg.

Jeannette grew up in Schaffer, Escanaba and Gladstone, Mich., and later participated in the opening of the Mackinac Bridge. Jeannette met and married Roy Nelson. They started a family, raising four children, in Wayne, Mich. Later, Jeannette moved back to Gladstone before settling

in Sault Ste. Marie where she became an active member of the Tribal Elder community.

Jeannette was a member of Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Jeannette was a very creative and adventurous woman. She loved to make Native American jewelry and spending time with her grandchildren. Jeannette also participated in a bowling league.

Jeannette is survived by her sons, Duane (Lori) Nelson of Gladstone and Dean Auger of Escanaba; daughters, Renee Nelson of Tennessee and Jeanine Nelson of Whitehouse, Tenn.; 12 grandchildren; step-sisters, Theresa and Gail Nordquist; and 18 great grandchildren.

Jeannette is preceded in death by her parents; brothers, Ronald Vanderberg and Dave (Black Beaver) Vanderberg and two great grandchildren.

No services were held.

Galer Funeral Home & Cremation in St. Ignace, Mich., served the family.

Condolences may be sent to the family at www.galerfuneral-homes.com.

National Children's Dental Health Month

BY JESSICA A. RICKERT, DDS

A child's smile can change the world, bringing joy and delight. That's when you fall hopelessly in love with life. A bright smile is important to a child's self-esteem. Smiles are not complicated. A perfect smile starts with excellent dental health.

Let's give that to our children during National Children's Dental Health Month, February. It's not complicated. Clean your baby's mouth as soon as you arrive home from the birth. Breast feed the child if at all possible. Provide healthy food and water. Healthy teeth start the digestive process.

A first visit to a dentist is recommended before the age of 1.

Teeth are needed for proper

speech to develop in the first years of life.

The most common transmissible disease is dental cavities; the germs that cause cavities are transmitted to the baby by family members. That is why it is essential that all family members have excellent dental health.

The number one reason that children miss school is because of dental disease. Parents, why not do everything in your power to stop dental disease? It's not complicated. Brush your children's teeth twice a day. Feed them nutritious food. Take them to the dentist's office for a dental cleaning twice a year. Included in this visit will be instructions and fluoride applications. If there is

a downpour in the day you visit the dentist's office, you'll wear a raincoat or use an umbrella, right? That is what sealants are for — sealants on the teeth are protection of the enamel from a harsh environment. They seal out decay.

Take charge of your child's dental health today! Here are free ways to help:

Dental Organizations

National Children's Dental Health Month | American Dental Association (ada.org) Full Sets of Fun Activity Sheets. Questions? Please email gkas@ada.org

Activity Sheets — American Dental Association (mouthhealthy.org)

2021-NCDHM-Infographic.

michigandental.org — poster for home and school

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5YRGUTC11KU> — Excellent dental health during pregnancy

Children's Dental Health Month: What You Need to Know About Kids' Oral Health | Smile Michigan-

ADA Watch Your Mouth Presentation (mouthhealthy.org) Middle school oral health <https://www.deltadental.foundation>

Government Health Departments

Children's Dental Health (cdc.gov) — USA government dental advice

MDHHS_2018_HKD_bro-

chure_Final_634786_7.pdf (michigan.gov) — Dental advice for children

www.education.ne.gov/nebooks/ebooks/poweroffrolemodels.pdf — Recruiting students into dentistry

Dental Companies

Educational Resources (colgate.com) — Dental Activity Sheets

Dental Health for Kids — Children's Health (childrens.com) — Dental Activity Sheets

Free Kids Dental Coloring Sheets - Printable Activity Pages about Teeth (drbethkailes.com) — Dental Activity Sheets

<https://www.kidsparkz.com/teeth.html> — Dental Activity Sheets

Behavioral Health, Traditional Medicine there for you

Although the COVID-19 pandemic has brought many limitations to services, Sault Tribe Behavioral Health and Sault Tribe Traditional Medicine are hard at work trying to counteract the negative impacts of substance use in our community.

The departments work to provide access to treatment for those looking to begin their recovery journey, such as funding for inpatient treatment, outpatient services and recovery support. They are also working to provide harm reduction services, such as access to supplies through the Safe Exchange program and access to Naloxone (Narcan), an opioid overdose reversal medication.

The Behavioral Health prevention program works with local schools and outside organizations to bring important and impactful prevention and education resources to youth and families. If you are interested in more information regarding recovery and prevention services,

please call Sault Tribe Behavioral Health at (906) 635-6075 or SAMHSA's National Helpline at (800) 662-HELP (4357).

Here is some of the most current data on overdose deaths in our area. In 2020, Michigan experienced a total of 2,738 deaths due to overdose, according to preliminary data released by the state of Michigan. Michigan has seen a 16 percent rise in overdose deaths from 2019, with a 16.2 percent overdose death rate per 100,000 people in Chippewa County. Nationally, there has been a 30 percent increase, with more than 93,000 drug related deaths last year. The COVID-19 pandemic has largely contributed to the rise in deaths due to isolation, unemployment and grief and loss experienced from the pandemic. Another contributor to drug related deaths is a synthetic opioid called fentanyl, which can be 50 or more times more potent than morphine.

The Behavioral Health

Department has installed Naloxone Boxes (NaloxBoxes) in each of the public restrooms of the Sault Tribe Health Center in Sault Ste. Marie. These boxes contain equipment needed to respond to an opioid overdose, including directions in English and Spanish on how to administer Naloxone, two 4mg doses of Naloxone Nasal Spray, a CPR facemask and information on how to receive Naloxone for free.

If you know of someone that needs Naloxone or you yourself need it, please take what is available in the Sault Tribe Health Center bathrooms or reach out to the Behavioral Health Program. Naloxone is available to the public free of charge at the Sault Tribe Behavioral Health Department on the third floor of the Sault Tribe Health Center in Sault Ste. Marie. The Behavioral Health Department Prevention Program hopes to expand this program to each of the Sault

Tribe Health Division's sites in the near future. If you would like additional information,

New bioengineered food standards in effect

To provide further clarification to consumers, the USDA has announced that food manufacturing companies will have to identify certain foods as "bioengineered" or "derived from bioengineering" instead of identifying foods as GMO.

On January 1, 2022, the National Bioengineered Food Disclosure Standard went into full effect. Previously, in some states like Vermont, "food offered for sale by a retailer that is entirely or partially produced with genetic engineering must be labeled accordingly," and in other states, such as Michigan, there were no such requirements.

There are several ways that food manufacturers can disclose this information to consumers.

please feel free to reach out the Sault Tribe's Behavioral Health Department.

Most food producers can label their products with a text description, one of the USDA's BE symbols, an electronic or digital link (such as a QR code), or a phone number consumers can text for more information. Small food producers or food items that come in small packages can simply provide consumers with a phone number or web address.

Consumers can rest assured that the FDA affirms that "GMO foods are as healthful and safe to eat as their non-GMO counterparts." For answers to your food safety questions, call MSU Extension's Food Safety Hotline at (877) 643-9882. This article was published by Michigan State University Extension. Visit <https://extension.msu.edu>.

What can we all do to support recycling?

BY KATHIE BROSEMER, SAULT TRIBE ENVIRONMENTAL
 There's been a recent renewal of interest in recycling within the tribe! Want to get involved? We want to hear from you!

Various tribal entities and buildings do already recycle – some collect pop cans, office paper, liquor bottles and other things. The MIS department handles recycling of computer equipment. Health Centers recycle as much as they can, shredding paper to keep confidentiality and there are tribal offices that collect batteries and various other things to divert from landfill. Making it more complicated, recycling programs in the seven counties vary quite a bit and things are always changing.

But the tribal board is keen to do more than we are currently doing. So, Environmental has been looking into what else we can do to support recycling by tribal members, government offices, tribal enterprises. And, we have been talking with other departments to see how we can help.

The Elders' Committee is

very interested in seeing the tribe recycle as much as possible. Elders tell us that the tribe's land ethic carries a responsibility toward Aki, and it is an Anishinaabeg harvest principle to use all that is possible to use, wasting nothing. We should do the same with all of the resources that we harvest, including metals, plastics, paper, and other things, not just the deer and other relatives that we hunt, fish and gather. This shows respect for Aki and humility for our place in the ecosystem.

In addition, everything that we waste makes climate change worse. Waste of resources means more manufacturing and shipping, which means more carbon is emitted by factories, energy plants, and shipping vehicles. Landfills emit methane, which is a potent greenhouse gas (estimates are that it is 70-80 times as bad as carbon dioxide). Our responsibility toward our future generations requires that we take action to limit waste and prevent climate catastrophe for the generations we have not yet met. We need to be better ancestors.

Cultural Division operates the cultural buildings Niigaanagizhik and Mary Murray Culture Camp on Sugar Island and the division is very interested in expanding current recycling initiatives there. At present the only recycling collection is pop cans, although there is evidence that someone has set aside empty water bottles for recycling in a box in the kitchen. So, there is evident interest!

It was agreed that to

begin our work, using the Niigaanagizhik building to demonstrate recycling will encourage other tribal employees and members to spread recycling to other sites and operations. So, we are starting there.

If you are interested in this initiative, we want to know! Please get in touch with us by phoning (906) 632-5575, or sending an email to kbrosemer@saulttribe.net, mailing back this little survey to us at 206 Greenough St. in the Sault,

or even sending us a message through the Sault Tribe Environmental Facebook page!

Do you know about any Sault Tribe recycling efforts? What is being collected and where?

What would you like to see us recycle next?

Please let us know if you are you a Sault Tribe member, employee and/or elder.

If you would like to be on our "Ideas Team," please give us your name and a way to contact you.

Federal Court restores Gray Wolf's Endangered Species Act protection

OAKLAND, Calif. — A federal judge on Feb. 10 restored protection to gray wolves, reversing a Trump-era rule that removed Endangered Species Act protection from the animals across most of the country. The ruling prohibits wolf hunting and trapping in states outside of the northern Rocky Mountains.

"This is a huge win for gray wolves and the many people across the country who care so deeply about them," Collette Adkins, carnivore conservation director at the Center for Biological Diversity, said. "I hope this ruling finally convinces the Fish and Wildlife Service to abandon its longstanding, misguided efforts to remove federal wolf protections. The agency should work instead to restore these ecologically important top carnivores to places like the southern Rockies and northeastern United States."

In his 26-page ruling, U.S. District Judge Jeffrey White wrote: "...the Service's analysis relied on two core wolf populations to delist wolves nationally and failed to provide a reasonable interpretation of the 'significant portion of its range' standard."

He therefore set aside the delisting rule and restored wolf pro-

tections in the Great Lakes region, West Coast states and southern Rocky Mountains.

"Again and again, we've had to take the fight for wolves to the courts," said Adkins. "I'm relieved that the court set things right but saddened that hundreds of wolves suffered and died under this illegal delisting rule. It will take years to undo the damage done to wolf populations."

The win is the result of a lawsuit brought by Earthjustice on behalf of the Center for Biological Diversity, Defenders of Wildlife, the Humane Society of the United States, Sierra Club, National Parks Conservation Association and Oregon Wild.

The court ruling does not restore protection to wolves in the northern Rockies, as wolves in that region lost their protection prior to the delisting rule challenged in this case. However, in response to an emergency petition from the Center for Biological Diversity and its partners, the Fish and Wildlife Service determined in September that protecting the species in the northern Rockies may be warranted based largely on new laws in Idaho and Montana that authorize the widespread killing of wolves.



Male wolf fitted with a radio collar in 2010. Photo courtesy ODFW.



2022 Sault Tribe Inland Application

Licensing cost is \$5 per member. Allowable payment methods are check or money order, **made payable to Sault Tribe**, or credit/debit card **at the window only**. Cash payments are not accepted. Youth (16 and under) and Elders (60 and over) are not required to pay fees. New members must provide a copy of their **current Enrollment card and proof of hunter safety if born after 1960**.

Application must be filled out accurately and completely. Please print legibly. It is your responsibility to know and abide by the rules and regulations pertaining to this license under Ch. 21 & 23.

Name: _____
Last First Middle

Mailing Address: _____
Street

City State ZIP

Physical Address (if different than above): _____
Street City State ZIP

Male Female Date of Birth: _____

Phone Number: _____ Tribal File #: _____ STS#: _____

Email Address: _____

- Please select one of the following license (must provide or have already provided hunter safety):
- Hunting Harvest Card (allows Inland fishing, general gathering, small game, waterfowl, migratory birds and general furbearer) **Please select any of the following tags;**
 - Deer
 - Spring Turkey
 - Fall Turkey
 - Trapping (Pine Marten, Bobcat, Fisher, River Otter)

Non Hunting Harvest Card (allows general gathering and Inland fishing **ONLY**)

Bear and Elk applications will be available in the Tribal newspaper in April 2022. For all other permits pursuant to Ch. 21 and 23 of the Tribal Code, you must contact the Conservation Department at 906-635-6065 (i.e. State/Federal Firewood Permits, Maple Sap permits, Birch Bark Permit, Conifer Bough Permit etc....)

Mail completed applications to: **Sault Tribe Law Enforcement. P.O. Box 925 Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783**

For STLE office use only
 Method of Pymt: _____ Date issued: _____
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Sault Tribe Law Enforcement and Conservation

BY ROBERT MARCHAND, CHIEF OF POLICE

Sault Tribe Law Enforcement (STLE) issues treaty hunting and fishing licenses to Sault Tribe members to be utilized within the boundaries of the 1836 Treaty Area. If members have any questions regarding these licenses, the criteria for obtaining them, or the regulations governing their use, please contact our office at (906) 635-6065.



report is received. If you are requesting this license for the first time, you are required to provide a copy of your tribal card along with proof of hunter safety if you want to engage in treaty hunting rights.

2022 Inland licenses will begin to be issued March 1, 2022. However, if you plan to engage in any treaty activity

with your 2021 license through March 31, please be sure to keep your 2021 license until then. 2021 licenses expire March 31, as noted on your licenses, so 2022 does not go into effect until April 1, 2022. Chapter 21 of the Tribal Code regulates Inland licenses. Please remember that if you are using this license for fishing purposes, you are only authorized to fish inland lakes and streams within the boundaries of the 1836 Treaty Area. There are some exceptions on specific bodies of water that you can find more information about in the Tribal Code.

Great Lakes Fishing – Subsistence, Subsistence Netting and Commercial

All 2021 subsistence and commercial licenses expired Dec. 31, 2021. If you have not

yet renewed either license for 2022, please make sure you are not engaging in any of the authorized activities for each license.

Commercial licenses – captains and helpers – require an appointment be made with STLE in order to renew each year. It is important that helpers and captains call to schedule their own appointments. STLE has to obtain specific personal information each year that only the member themselves can provide.

If you hold a subsistence license or subsistence and netting licenses, please remember that you are required to turn in a monthly catch report by the 10th of each month. These reports are required whether you catch any fish or don't get out to fish. Please remember that these licenses are valid only on the

Great Lakes within the boundaries of Sault Tribe's 1836 Treaty Area. Chapter 20 of the Tribal Code and CORA Code regulate both subsistence licenses.

As a reminder, you are authorized to recreationally fish in the Great Lakes within the boundaries of our 1836 Treaty Area with just your membership card as long as you follow state of Michigan rules for the activity.

Members are encouraged to educate themselves on the various rules governing our treaty rights; however, STLE is here to help members wade through the sometimes complex rules. If you cannot find the information you are looking for in Tribal or CORA Code, please contact our office at (906) 635-6065 and ask to speak with a conservation officer.

Carbon monoxide poisoning prevention in ice fishing shanties - be aware of safety procedures

ROBIN BOUSCHOR, ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST, SAULT TRIBE ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENT

With ice fishing in full swing in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, it's important to keep in mind an important safety concern, carbon monoxide poisoning.

Carbon monoxide (CO) is an odorless, tasteless and invisible gas that is produced whenever fuel is burned. This "silent killer" can be deadly to humans and animals, due to formation

While exercising your fishing treaty rights please be cautious and enjoy the great outdoors!

of carboxyhemoglobin in the blood, which inhibits oxygen intake.

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the associated health effects of CO exposure can range from fatigue and chest pain in people with heart disease with a low concentration

exposure. In moderate concentration exposure impaired vision, reduced cognitive function and angina. Higher concentrations can produce impaired vision or coordination, headaches, dizziness, confusion, nausea and even death.

To protect yourself and people with you please use caution when using a fuel-burning heaters since they give off carbon monoxide. Read the instructions of the device to verify you are using it correctly. Cooking with charcoal, wood, or gas can also

expose shanty occupants to CO gases, instead cook outside the shanty in the beautiful outdoor air.

Lastly, if you do use a heater in your ice shanty (while adhering to manufacturer's instructions) a digital carbon monoxide detector is advised. CO detectors can be purchased online or at your local home improvement store. Be cautious on handling the detector to make sure not to get it wet or damaged and remember the batteries will need to be changed more frequently

due to the cold temps draining the battery faster than CO detectors in homes.

While exercising your fishing treaty rights please be cautious and enjoy the great outdoors!

If you have any questions, contact the Sault Tribe Environmental Department for more information at (906) 632-5575 or visit the EPA page for more information on carbon monoxide at: <https://www.epa.gov/indoor-air-quality-iaq/carbon-monoxides-impact-indoor-air-quality>.

Take precautions first so your water pipes don't burst!

BY CRYSTAL FALK, ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST

One of the worst things that can happen during these cold months is having your pipes freeze, but there are some simple things we can all do to prevent pipes from freezing and breaking.

Some simple precautions that should be taken:

1) Close all inside valves that supply water to outdoor hose faucets and drain outside, open faucets and leave open for the winter.

2) Do not leave garden hoses attached to outside hose faucets.

3) Check around the home for other areas where water supply lines are in unheated areas such as basements, crawl spaces, attics, garages and under kitchen and bathroom sinks (remember, both hot and cold water lines can freeze in these areas).

4) If you do have water lines in these areas, try to insulate these lines or let the water run (the size of a pencil lead, even just a small drip will help), open cupboard doors on sinks, keep garage doors closed and if you live in an apartment building and keep entry doors closed. If you live in a mobile home, make sure your water connections are insulated. Pipe wrap is inexpensive and available at any hardware

store or big department store.

5) Letting a faucet drip during extreme cold weather can prevent a pipe from bursting. It's not that a small flow of water prevents freezing, as water can freeze even with a slow flow. By opening a faucet, it will also provide relief from the excessive pressure that builds between the faucet and the ice blockage when freezing occurs. If there is no excessive water pressure, there is no burst pipe, even if the water inside the pipe freezes.

A dripping faucet wastes water, so only pipes vulnerable to freezing (ones that run through an unheated or unprotected space) should be left with the water flowing. Even the slowest drip at normal pressure will provide pressure relief when needed. Where both hot and cold lines serve a spigot, make sure each one contributes to the drip, since both are subject to freezing. If the dripping stops, leave the faucet(s) open, since a pipe may have frozen and will still need pressure relief.

6) All household members should know where the shut off valve is located and know how to shut off the water. This will save wasted water and water damage to your home in the event that a pipe does

burst.

7) In the event your pipes freeze, keep your faucets open so when the lines start to thaw, the flowing water will help the water melt. Please do not use a torch, kerosene heater, propane heater or any other open flame that may cause the water to boil, it will damage pipes and could start a fire. Should you use other devices such as heat tapes or hair dryers, do not allow these to come in contact with water.

8) When away from the house for an extended period during the winter, be careful how much you lower the heat. A lower temperature may save on the heating bill, but there could be a disaster if a cold spell strikes and pipes that normally would be safe freeze and burst. It is best to drain the water system as a safeguard. With no water in the pipes, there is no freezing.

To drain the system, shut off the main valve and turn on every water fixture (both hot and cold lines) until water stops running. It's not necessary to leave the fixtures open, since the system is filled mostly with air at that point and not subject to freezing. When returning to the house, turn on the main valve and let each fixture run until the pipes are full again.

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Sault Tribe Thrive Business Directory

Thank you to all the Sault Tribe member-owned businesses who have reached out and contacted us so far. Another month of continued GROWTH! If your business is not listed, please contact us so we can get you or your business set up with our office and into the directory going forward. We will update the list as needed and republishing every month to ensure new members and changes are seen consistently. The Sault Tribe Thrive office is here to help any and all Sault Tribe member-owned businesses.

If you have not already please check out our new website and social media sites at <https://saulttribethrive.com> and <https://www.facebook.com/saulttribethrive>.

Sault Tribe Thrive Office: Info@saulttribethrive.com, (906) 635-6050, ext. 26121.

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From "Thrive," page 21
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Jessica Shields
Escanaba, MI 49829
(906) 553-8430
jessicaloushields@gmail.com
Handmade hippie/bohemian clothing.

Walsh Service Solutions LLC.
Rich Walsh
Kalamazoo, MI 49009
(269) 823-1051
rich@walshservicesolutions.com
Environmental consulting services.

Weddings by Judy in Northern Michigan
Judy St. Louis-Scott
St. Ignace, MI 49781
(906) 643-7064
stlouis92@yahoo.com
Wedding Officiant.

White Pine Lodge
Christmas, MI 49862
(906) 387-1111
whitepinelodgeonline.com
Hotel and convenience store.

Wholistic Energy Healing
Shelly Kucharczyk
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
906-440-2224
s.kucharczyk@yahoo.com
https://www.facebook.com/wholisticwellnesssolutions
We clear the negative energy, allowing wellness.

Wicked Walleye Tackle
Mendy Kolbus
Rapid River, MI 49878
(906) 286-1886
wickedwalleyet@yahoo.com
Handmade lures for walleye fishing.

Willis Pest Control
Willard Willis
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 322 7445
Full pest control services.

Windy Hills Bison Farm
Carl Brasseur
Tustin, MI 49688
(231) 342-4245
Brasseur@windyhillsbisonfarm.com
Full bison farm and home to award winning animals.

Woody's One Stop
Nick and Pam Louricas
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 440-2248
Full Service Convenience Store
"A true 1 stop shop."

Zodiac Party Store, Taste of the U.P.
Keith Massaway
St. Ignace, MI 49781
(906) 643-8643
kmassaway@msn.com
Convenience store.

Have you moved?

Contact Enrollment at (800) 251-6597 or (906) 635-3396; Sault Tribe Health Center at (906) 632-5200; and the Sault Tribe Newspaper (*Win Awenen Nisitotung*) at (906) 632-6398 to update your new address and continue to receive your tribal mailings.

Doing my best for as long as I have: My goal is to reach \$0.5 billion in federal aid!



SAULT TRIBE CHAIRPERSON,
AARON PAYMENT

Representing All Members Everywhere

Aaniin, Boozhoo, Niijii:

While the censure and removal still hang heavy over me like a dark cloud adversely impacting me and my family, I am choosing to focus on what I can accomplish in the time I may have left. I am choosing to stay positive and not engage in a back and forth. However, let me say this — I was raised by my grandmother, who was both a strict Catholic Indian woman along with practicing our Anishinaabe Biimaadziwin. In both faiths, I learned the difference between right and wrong and live my life guided by prayer and the Creator's will to always do what is right to honor our ancestors while mindful of the benefit

for our next seven generations. I truly live my life this way. Thus, the undefined and indistinct allegations are not only unfounded, they are hurtful, derogatory and defamatory. I have endured the "Pink Post Cards," "Michael Jackson Mailers" and anonymous mailers and robo calls in the past, but you never grow accustomed to it. The irony is that while I am accused of mistreating others, I would never treat a dog like I am being treated.

Having said that, I am grateful that at the last meeting, while two board members made a motion to fine me \$5,000, 10 board members voted against this motion. I genuinely appreciate this. I am looking introspectively at my approach and my political speech and how I can improve to focus on what I can contribute rather than a negative political focus. Out of gratitude, I have pledged to the board to do better. There is just too much at stake for me not to do whatever I can to save your democratically elected chairperson seat.

Normally, under the rule of law, before an investigation using public resources can commence, a prima facie case is made that some crime has been committed and a warrant issued by a judge who interprets that the public interest outweighs a right to privacy. The fact that no specific allegations have been made and

that our tribal judicial branch (law enforcement, the prosecutor, or our tribal judge) are entirely outside of this "investigation" suggests there is NO prima facie case to be made.

I'll stop there, but please know from my heart I have not been accused of any crimes. If I were, either the tribal judicial system or the FBI would conduct the investigation. Finally, my ethics and the way I try to live a virtuous life means I would never violate the public trust. I believe the vast majority of our Sault Tribe members — both supporters and those who have never voted for me — and elected tribal leaders and others from across the country know my character well enough to believe me.

MUCH MORE TO DO

My main job as elected by the Sault Tribe voters is to represent you. I do so with great pride of our tribe and our people. Below is a photo of government officials I testified to recently. There is much more work for me to do in the implementation of the jobs and infrastructure \$13 billion for Indian Country. I am working on several projects that should deliver up to another \$150 million to our tribe. Participating in tribal consultations with the federal government is how we achieve this and I am really good at it. For our tribe, I have helped secure over \$400 million

in just over a year, which led to \$2,000 to \$3,000 relief checks for all members. By the end of this year, I project our total will be a \$0.5 billion! Without this, we would have had massive layoffs. Our casino, governmental and enterprise team members are heroes for doing their best, so I am grateful that no one was forced on layoff. Finally, the

notice below is a funding source for tribal member small business loans I helped write into law and worked to ensure our tribe will get a share just over \$10 million Stay tuned.

Aaron
(906) 635-6050
(800) 793-0660
cell: (906) 203-5159
aaronpayment@saulttribe.net

The total recalculated potential SSBCI funding for Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians is \$10,107,806 with the following breakdown:

- Main Capital Allocation (Section 3003(b)): \$6,260,453
- Very Small Business Allocation (Section 3003(f)): \$714,130
- SEDI Allocation (Section 3003(d)): \$2,029,681
- Initial Eligible Amount of \$800 million of incentive funding¹ (Section 3003(e)): \$1,103,542
- **TOTAL POTENTIAL SSBCI FUNDING = \$10,107,806**



US Interior Secretary Deb Haaland and Assistant Secretary Bryan Newland, Energy Secretary Granholm and Transportation Secretary Buttigieg at the historic first White House Council for Indian Affairs Tribal Engagement. I addressed them with the issues important to our tribe.

Tribe receives fourth round of VW Mitigation Funds

BY ROBIN BOUSCHOR,
ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST
SAULT TRIBE ENVIRONMENTAL
DEPARTMENT

In late 2015, a scandal with the vehicle company Volkswagen was announced by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA).

It was revealed that Volkswagen from 2009 to 2015 had installed a "defeat device" software code in the diesel models sold in the U.S. This software code was intended to detect when an emissions test was performed and alter emission controls to be fully in compliance with all federal emission levels. However, when the vehicles were not being tested, the onboard computer system would switch to a separate mode that significantly changed the fuel pressure, injection timing and exhaust-gas recirculation. This resulted in vehicles having attractive higher gas mileage rates and power and, unknown to the consumer, it also resulted in heavier nitrogen oxide emissions (NOx) up to 40 times higher than the

federal limit in some vehicles.

On Jan. 4, 2016, the U.S. government filed complaint against Volkswagen for alleged Clean Air Act violations, which resulted in the June 2016 VW settlement of \$14.7 billion with an agreement they would buy back the affected cars.

On Oct. 2, 2017, the U.S. government announced the VW Mitigation Trust Agreement of \$2.8 billion that would fund projects to help offset the diesel emissions produced by the affected VW vehicles. A portion of the VW Mitigation Trust Settlement was set aside for federally recognized tribes to the tune of \$55 million. The funds were disbursed from early 2018 until 2021 for a total of four funding cycles.

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians participated in the second, third and fourth funding cycles, from 2019-2021, to replace three Sault Tribe Construction diesel vehicles. The Sault Tribe Environmental Department Air Quality Program



The tribe replaced older diesel vehicles with three new ones, including the one above.

headed the efforts in collaboration with the Sault Tribe Construction and Accounting Departments upon the Sault Tribe Board of Directors' approval. The Air Quality Program is funded by project grants through the EPA, which makes participating in opportunities like these possible.

In all three funding cycles the tribe received a total of \$535,223 through the VW Mitigation Trust Agreement. With the replacement of older diesel vehicles with newer efficient vehicles the tribe was able to reduce emissions of nitrogen oxide, particulate matter 2.5, and carbon monoxide resulting in cleaner

air quality to the areas where the vehicles are utilized. The fourth VW Mitigation funding cycle will most likely be the last due to the original \$55 million in settlement funds being exhausted.

If you have any questions, please contact the Sault Tribe Environmental Department at (906) 632-5575.

Director Sorenson updates Unit III membership



**BRIDGETT SORENSON,
DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

At the Feb. 1 board meeting, I made a motion to declare the chairperson's actions not compliant with the board censure (Jan. 4 meeting) and fine him \$5,000, which shall be added to the principal of the Land's Claim Fund, and Director Hoffman seconded. The board then wanted to go into closed session to discuss. After possibly an hour, we went back into to open session. Betty made a motion to add a resolution number to my motion and Austin seconded it. All board members voted "no" except for Betty and Austin to add a resolution to the motion. Then we voted on the main motion in which all board members voted "no" besides Director Hoffman and myself.

I'm not really quite sure why the majority of the board did not support the motion of non-compliance. If they didn't agree with the \$5,000 fine then they could have amended the motion. I was disappointed that the board did not act on the continued behavior of the

chairman. At the end of the vote, the chairperson made some promise of behaving. Later that evening he posted on social media he was taking a hiatus from Facebook. None of the actions or inactions of the board had any bearing on the investigation that was approved when the censure was passed.

The chairperson had submitted a referendum on the board's December vote to have Joel Schultz oversee the EDC until we hired his replacement. Joel was hired as the CEO of Sault Tribe Inc. The board did not even establish a contract with the STI board until the Jan. 18 board meeting. The original contract presented was ridiculous. The board made sure to workshop the contract with our legal counsel and agreed on a contract that would work for all parties. At the Feb. 1 meeting, the board voted to send the referendum documents to the Election Committee. It seems absolutely crazy that anyone would have a problem with the tribe paying Joel \$1 to continue to oversee the EDC operations he has established. I truly believe the members probably didn't understand what they were signing. I had members, who received a letter from the chair, contact me and ask what it even meant. Not everyone received the letters that were sent out by the chair, Betty and Austin. So, if the board sends the vote out to the entire membership it will probably cost the tribe \$30-40,000. So, spend \$30-40,000 or \$1?

In the nine-and-a-half years I have been on the board, the board's retirement has been an

issue; an issue I consider to be manufactured for political reasons. It has added it to the agenda on numerous occasions over the years. Up until a couple of years ago, the board did not have the opportunity to pay into Social Security, which is why the retirement was put into place. In order for the board to pay into Social Security, all directors must agree to do that.

For many years, I raised my two boys on \$30,000 or less with no child support, so I take offense to statements on Facebook about those losing their board seats having to support a household. We don't always get the dream job, with the dream shift, and dream pay, but when you have a family to support and bills to pay, you do what you have to do. Many team members have lost their jobs over the years from budget cuts, position eliminations, etc., and they had to figure it out. If anyone of us loses an election then we will need to figure it out too. Nothing is guaranteed.

For decades the at-large members have been pitted against the service area members. I am pretty sure the service area was created shortly after recognition so it is not something new that much of the services provided are to the members that live in the service area. I know members below the bridge or at the west end of the U.P. get upset, understandably. We currently have about 16,000 members living in the service area and after the \$2,000 cares checks went out, we are close to 48,000 members, total.

Unfortunately, we do not even come close to filling the needs of the 16,000 members. Many tribes do not have the number of members we have, especially those that provide per capita payments to their members. We have always been a service providing tribe through self-governance. If we could open our casino in Romulus or near Lansing, we could generate more money. We have been unsuccessful of getting the federal government to take these parcels into trust. Instead, other tribes with much smaller populations are opening up much larger casinos and some are not on our side about coming into these markets.

I also realize that even if members want to move into the service area, there is a huge housing shortage. Every unit has housing issues. The board has set aside millions of dollars in each unit to help alleviate some of our issues. In Unit 3, another big issue is lack of available land to build on. Keith and I will be meeting with housing and real estate to discuss options to address our area.

I am going to continue to advocate for ending the mask mandate at our businesses. Team members, when they are not working, are living their lives going to stores, sporting events, concerts, gatherings, restaurants and bars and I'm sure most aren't wearing masks since it is not required in most places besides the health care field. I'm not knocking them for not wearing a mask in the public but merely making a statement that COVID is spreading in all of our areas and many people are

vaccinated and boosted. It is time to open up and allow adults to make their own decisions as to wearing a mask or not. We continue to lose too much money in the casinos and we may never get these players back.

I want to give a shout out to Russ Rickley and Tony Grondin, who began a grass roots Wellbriety group that meet weekly at the McCann School. They continue to have a good number of participants with a variety of backgrounds. I hear nothing but good things about the work they are doing and it shows in the number of participants that continue to attend.

Keith and I continue to have monthly unit meetings at the McCann School on the third Monday of the month at 6 p.m. Members are welcome to come and ask questions or address concerns.

The Notice of Election went out on Jan. 28. Hopefully, everyone will be running clean campaigns in all areas. The primary election will take place on May 19 and the general election is on June 23. I am not up for re-election during this cycle. Nominating petitions will be available on March 24 and that is the last day to submit a letter of intent to run.

Thank you to all of our staff that continue to stick with us through these trying times and always working short-handed. Chi miigwech! We couldn't provide the programs and services without you all!

Contact me at: bsorenson@saulttribe.net, bridgett91@yahoo.com or (906) 430-0536.

Freiheit says choose board candidates carefully



**BETTY FREIHEIT,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Hello Tribal Members,

Election season is upon us. It is an exciting time for our tribe. Candidates come forward with their ideas and goals and we decide if we want change on the board or want it to remain the same.

Every two years, half of our board seats are up for re-election. Any one election cycle could bring dramatic changes in the direction of our tribe. We should all exercise our right to vote and spend time considering the issues we want to see elected leaders address, and the qualities we want in our board members.

Because we are in election cycle, board members need to be careful what they write in their reports, as it could be considered a violation of the Election Code to

appear to be encouraging support or against candidates.

Without stating names, here are some of the qualities I am going to look for in candidates. I would like to see candidates who support true transparency. Who would work to find ways to give members information rather than withhold it and want to bring members into the operation of the government. This would include answering members questions at meetings, changing meeting times to allow more members to attend, opening up workshop and Zooming them to the membership. And most importantly limiting the use of closed sessions and confidential information to specific items.

I would like to see the support for diverse opinions at the table and in the unit reports and communication with members. That often used "mantra" of the board "to speak with one voice," to be unified, is not conducive to a real democracy. Rather it is characteristic of autocracies.

We should be able to challenge, debate and sit on opposite sides without fear of criticisms, or worse, retaliation.

We represent a diverse group of members. Board allegiance should always be to the members, not each other.

I would like to see adults at the table. People who are mature enough to accept criticism and

opposition to their views and ideas and not retaliate against staff and members who speak their minds.

I would like to see a board who wants to reach out to all members and provide them assistance at all levels possible with our fiscal ability and guidelines. And, who do not criticize and accuse other board of causing divisions in the tribe because of such efforts.

I am hopeful for a board who recognizes we have a major flaw in our government structure due to an outdated and faulty consti-

tution that vests all power in the board, without a system of checks and balances. And, that we need government reforms, including an independent judiciary to address these issues.

Finally, I would like to see candidates who recognize the role of the board is to serve the members.

Members should take time to determine what qualities and issues are important to them and then look for candidates who embrace them.

Carefully vet candidates. Ask

Greater consistency needed with COVID policies



**AUSTIN LOWES
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Aaniin,

This unit report will discuss two important topics: the upcoming election and the need for greater consistency with our COVID-19 policies.

Democracy is the bedrock of our tribal government. Every two years, half the board is up for re-election. That time is now upon us. No matter what your political leanings are, please participate in this process. The first step is registering to vote. If you moved in the last two years, or if you didn't receive a ballot in the last election, then you need to register. The deadline to do so is March 24. Voter

registration forms can be found on the tribe's website. Please fill them out and send them to the Election Committee at P.O. Box 102 in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. To the challengers and incumbents, good luck! Please focus on the issues and avoid personal attacks. Although elections are competitive due to what's at stake, selecting our leaders should not bring out the worst in us. Let's remember that we're a tribal community and do our best to remain civil.

I would now like to discuss our COVID-19 policies. We are approaching the second year of
See "Lowes," page 27

Tribe works hard to help neediest members



**KEITH MASSAWAY,
DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

The tribal board and the respective staff have worked very hard over many years to help some of our neediest members. Our ACFS (Anishnaabe Community & Family Services) have made great strides in securing tools for the many needs of our people in our service area.

One of our shining stars is our shelter for our kwe (females) in need of protection. The women's shelter is a great place to get all the help the tribe can offer along with continued support from our many programs.

These programs vary on the circumstances that are brought

forth but assistance is available for almost anyone in need. Please call our main switchboard for the tribe (906) 635-6050 and ask for ACFS and they will connect you.

I cannot thank the employees enough for all the services they provide and the hours they put in. We have helped countless members over the years and strive to continue to help everyone in the future that we can. This is only the tip of the programs that I can mention here, but services include all facets of our family units.

Children's services are many and varied for all ages.

Men's services help with jobs and interviewing methods. Counselling for everyone from anger issues, health concerns and even family violent situations, is available. Please use our services if you are in any uncomfortable circumstance.

The election has begun and I ask that everyone sign up to vote.

If you did not receive a ballot in the last election, two years ago or your address has changed, you have to call the tribal switchboard and ask to sign up to vote in the tribal election. After you give the proper information, you will receive a self-addressed card in

the mail and fill it out and send it in with your appropriate unit of choice you wish to vote in.

Remember that if you changed addresses or corrected your address for the \$2,000 check we sent out earlier, this does not register you in the election to vote. You can always call and confirm your voting address at any time.

Thank you for the e-mails and calls.

Keith Massaway,
702 Hazelton St.,
St. Ignace, MI 49781,
kmassaway@saulttribe.net,
(906) 322-3802

Hollowell announces not running for re-election



**CATHERINE HOLLOWELL,
DIRECTOR, UNIT II**

May be the best candidate win.

I had planned on using January's Unit Report to give a recap across divisions tribal wide. I submitted that report, but pulled it at the last minute as I got wind of some very harmful tactics of retribution, directed at innocent tribal members, not party to tribal governance, based on anything critical I might say. There is no excuse for targeting innocent tribal members for political motives.

The issue has been addressed and hopefully resolved. I'm counting on that.

Here is what I intended to say in January: That I sincerely, urge anyone who seeks to serve Unit 2 in tribal government to, by all means, throw their hat in the ring and run for office. A robust slate of candidates is a good and healthy thing for democracy and offers voters real choice.

Now that it is February, and the election cycle has begun, I can announce that I will not be seeking re-election. My closest tribal friends, advisors and family have known for quite some time that I would not be running again. Richard and I had plans for this next stage of our lives. I promised Richard that I would follow through with these plans.

I also urge tribal members to register to vote. You can go to

our Sault Tribe website saulttribe.com to download a registration form (navigate to the "Enrollment" tab). Or contact Enrollment at (800) 251-6597 and they can send you one (but gosh, they are still very busy still getting minors enrolled in the tribe). There is also a form on page 2 of this issue of Win Awenen Nisitotung. Voter registration requires a signature and so it can't be completed online. Deadline to register in time for the next election is March 24, so do not delay.

Finally, I have complete faith in Unit 2 members to know who best represents their interests. Unit 2 is perfectly capable of selecting their candidate for office. They can make their own decisions without undue influence from political actors outside Unit 2 who get involved to recruit candidates of their liking. It happens every election cycle. With respect, how about those actors kindly butt out; worry about their own units and let Unit 2 decide for themselves without undue, outside influence.

2021 was an incredibly difficult year for the tribe. And, for our tribal members. It was especially difficult for staff and employees. But there were also some wonderful accomplishments. Somehow, it became difficult to celebrate our accomplishments. Partly because we could not congregate together as we've always done in the past. Also, there existed forces that unfairly colored every success with doubt and innuendo.

The best I can say at this point, is please take a moment to read the "annual report" that was included as an insert in the August 2021 edition. You can find it online at saulttribe.com/newsroom/sault-tribe-newspaper. Lots of comprehensive information there including financial statements. And, a comprehensive list of department contacts for further information that you can rely on for accuracy.

COVID is taking its toll.

It is threatening our ability to stay operational, especially in mission critical areas. An incredible burden on key staff members, as they work diligently on normal member services, but also the administration and compliance provisions of COVID funding.

They deserve praise for their heroic efforts. A job well done under less-than-ideal circumstances.

Housing needs across the homeland is critical, especially shortages in Unit 2. We have funding available to address that need and no surprise that identifying location, construction resources and material supplies hinders the pace and ability to fulfill that need, especially in this Covid economy. Once again, staff is moving a plan forward to meet that need and I appreciate this additional effort on their part. We work together to accomplish these goals.

If you follow the tribe's legislative and voting matrix, you may be aware of an unfortunate incident that recently occurred. It resulted in the board of directors passing a motion to censure the chairman of the tribe, by a majority of the board (10-2). I voted in the majority.

A third-party investigator has been retained by the CEO of the tribe to conduct a fact-finding investigation; evaluate the impact on our tribe as a whole and issue findings.

I do want to make this much of a statement: People are free to say what they please on social media. But as elected officers, we have an oath to live up to on your behalf. We have to make tough decisions on so many things. But one thing we cannot do is purposefully lie to the public, with the intent to damage the tribe. When that happens, it's something we cannot ignore.

Myself, I do not discuss tribal issues on Facebook. Ironically, I'm a policy nerd and do not mind

discussing various topics as we attempt to move our tribe forward. Call me. I do want to hear from you. But I limit tribal posts on Facebook to public service and event notices. I wish we could create a forum to deep dive dialog on policy issues. But tribal Facebook is too toxic and littered with misinformation and disinformation. And we don't govern by Facebook. We could use a new and improved Tribal Government website with a portal available for tribal members only. If we could get that established, we could then have a venue for productive public policy discussions. I've advocated for this since 2010 but there has not been much interest in accomplishing that. But now, I think the time has arrived. But that cannot be the only solution. Many of our members, especially our older members, are not going to use electronic communication. We cannot forget them and nothing beats physical face to face socialization for building, strengthening and healing our communities.

At the state and national level, we expend a lot of time, energy and resources advocating for a "seat at the table" when other governments — namely the federal government, make decisions that impact our tribe. As the saying goes, "You are either at the table, or on the menu." I would hope the same respect was shown within our own tribal government. There is nothing respectful about slapping legislation on the board meeting agenda that would have profound impacts on the future direction of the tribe, without substantive, statesman-like conversation about the impact on our tribe. To do otherwise, for the sole purpose of inciting public reaction for campaign and election purposes, is disrespectful. Every elected officer is at the governing table by virtue of the people electing them to represent and make decisions on their behalf.

An Elder from Naubinway gave me very good advice in 2010: "We elected you to roll up your shirt sleeves, work together and find solutions to our challenges," I have striven to do just that. There is no room for grudges, or carrying around a "bag of grievances" if we intend to work together to accomplish the people's business. Profound initiatives require continued dialog and debate and a commitment to find common ground.

Who we are as a people; where we are going as a people and how we are going to get there, as a people, requires serious, honest leadership and a commitment to our cultural values and the vision of our ancestors.

This is going to be a long, hard winter. Praying for everyone to stay safe. I miss seeing everyone so much. Just a few more weeks and we'll be able to emerge from this isolation. I pray we can hang in there; to find strength and can finally congregate for hugs, handshakes, shared meals; laughter and hope for the future.

Reach out if you have questions, concerns, complaints or want to talk. Please contact me at (906) 430-5551. I do love hearing from you. Come spring and summer I know we will finally be able to come together again in a good way.

I leave you with this: Zhawenimishin noongom gaagizhigak, jimino naanaagaadawendamaan, jimino waabanmoog niiji Anishinabe, jimino noondawang niiji Anishinabe, jimino ganoonag niiji Anishinabe, shigo jimino wiijiwig niiji Anishinabe. Miigwech, Gitchi Manidoo.

Creator help me this day to have good thoughts, to see good things in a person, to hear good things from a person, to talk good to a person so that I can walk with others in a good way. Thank you, Great Spirit.

Central United Methodist Church donates \$25,000 to Hospice of the EUP

FROM HOSPICE OF THE EUP SAULT STE. MARIE — Central United Methodist Church has donated \$25,000 to help Hospice of the EUP overcome fund-raising deficits due to the pandemic-related cancellation of the 2021 Madrigal Dinner and postponement of the 2021 Dancing with the Stars.

"While our general giving stayed on track in 2021, the loss

of these two great events forces us to make up an almost \$100,000 shortfall," Hospice of the EUP Director Tracey Holt said. "Central United Methodist Church's contribution really helps make up for some of the loss."

Central United Methodist Church annually contributes endowment fund dollars to special groups in the community.

Endowment Fund board member Barb Carlisle is a hospice volunteer who initiated the contribution to Hospice of the EUP, and she was unanimously supported by the CUMC board.

"The overall consensus is that everyone in the community benefits from hospice," Carlisle said. "We've all had experience with hospice or know someone who has. Pastor Vickie (Hadaway)

brought the check over while I happened to be working there. People hear about hospice. And once they actually experience it, they are just blown away."

CUMC leaders hope their contribution motivates other churches or community benefactors to support Hospice of the EUP.

"The community has always come through for us, and we strive to reciprocate," Holt said

of the 40-year-old organization that is funded completely by private donations. "And we look forward to bringing back Dancing with the Stars this spring and the Madrigal Dinner next fall."

For information regarding Hospice of the EUP, to donate or to inquire about volunteer opportunities, contact Holt, tholt@hospiceoftheeup.com or (906) 259-0222.

Hoping for more accountability from board



MICHAEL MCKERCHIE,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

I was recently asked what I hope is the outcome of censuring our chair, and, as I previously stated, my hope is for accountability. I hope it doesn't stop with just our chair; I hope

all board members (present and future) are held to our laws and our code of professional conduct. This isn't going to be an easy path for our tribe, as we've had a toxic environment for a long, long time — but, it is a necessary path.

Unfortunately, anyone can lie on social media — they can make innuendos of wrong-doing, criminal acts, suggest fraud, etc. All in the name of keeping people "informed." Our community, even as large as it is, is still too small for Facebook fact checking and there is no tribal Wikipedia. In that void, social media has not done tribal country any favors, as many can say almost whatever they want with little to no repercussions. That changes when you become a leader — you have to follow

our laws, you have to follow our rules and you have to lead by example. And, sadly, that wasn't happening.

At the time this paper's deadline, the board of directors has not had an update on the investigation of our chair and his conduct. I hope to have an update soon and will share with the membership all I can. Things take time. It took us a long time to get to this point and we will have bumpy road ahead as we figure all this out. But, our tribe will march on. We have a lot of dedicated team members who have seen us through difficult times before and we have a lot of new team members who want our communities to succeed.

We have some major projects that continue to progress.

We have work being done to address our multimillion-dollar recovery hospital as well as several housing projects throughout our tribal communities, as hopefully some much needed improvements on our current properties (including our casinos). As with all major projects, contractors and supplies remain in high demand and we are still working through all the details. We also have the broadband project that we hope will still occur and several other opportunities we are in negotiations with. Being a land-poor tribe, many of these opportunities require additional lands. Getting land put into "trust" isn't easily obtained. We have many applications put in and sometimes they take years and still don't go our way.

I believe the law is on our side and the U.S. government needs to fulfill its trust responsibilities, but that doesn't always happen either. We must remain vigilant and keep fighting for our sovereignty because it is and will remain under constant attack. I'm proud of our tribe in its past and current activities fighting for our sovereignty not only in "trust" land lawsuits but also in our negotiations for fishing the Great Lakes. We continue to meet as a group several times a month and with the other tribes as well. Some days we make progress and some days we have set-backs, but we continue to try and make something work for all involved.

Any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me at (906) 440-7768.

Causley-Smith updates Unit II membership



LANA CAUSLEY-SMITH,
DIRECTOR, UNIT II

Times have been very tough the past couple of months with our tribe. As I have said so many times, social media can be an amazing resource for people to gain information for resources or keep connected with family and friends, but it can and has been devastating to families and tribes if misinformation or unfair treatment is placed on people. I have seen terrible things posted and, if anybody knows me, they know I have no tolerance for posting negative mis-truths, hurtful attacks, conspiracy theories or use it in any way that will discredit any individual or our tribe.

I would just like to take this moment as I have done many times in the past — if you want factual resources or up-to-date press releases that garner

a public statement from your government as a whole, it's best to go to our official website, saulttribe.com. I have advocated and will continue to advocate to keep up on communications and information to members.

I do not think the website is perfect but it has many good items on there for review including all the tribal board members unit reports, passed resolutions, business meeting minutes, job postings, press releases, contact information for each department, up-to-date programming and activities and, most importantly, all Tribal Codes and laws. I often hear about or see people citing laws that we may or may not have and I always refer to our codes and ask that you do the same. For almost four decades, we have established and created them to run our tribe...Some tend to make it up as they go or try to recreate history when in fact, it's there.

I always encourage members to call and discuss with me anything they may read or hear that's troubling them. I am always available through meeting face to face, text, private messenger on Facebook or a good old fashion call. I encourage and invite that before you believe all you read. I remember, many years ago, I had the

honor and privilege to be in attendance in a teaching lodge with Dale Thomas. He spoke at length about the coming technology that would aim to hurt, divide and turn us against one another. This was all before Facebook and all the social sites out there now (I am in no way saying they are all bad). I truly did not understand at the time what exactly he was speaking about, but now, in my opinion, I completely understand. That is one main reason I do not take to the sites and use them in a negative way or get into a back and forth. I think it can be toxic and unhealthy if used in that way. Thank you for letting me share the above and invite you to contact me.

We have finally passed a budget to renovate and operate the clinic in DeTour for members who reside in surrounding areas and on Drummond Island. We have held fast and advocated for this for quite some time. I am happy to know that members who live there will have access to satellite services similar to Newberry and Hessel in our unit. Again, I have heard from many of you that may be interested in helping when we get operating and posting any positions, so I will update and if you are interested, please keep pace with our Job Openings updated

and listed on our website daily. I am confident that we will be able to meet the demand and supply much needed resources to members in this area. Thank you for all the patience throughout the time it took to secure a location and get an operating, renovation budget approved. I am very happy that we can finally announce this and thank everyone that helped plan and support this.

Spring is right around the corner and I am not sure if we will be over the pandemic enough to hold our annual powwows again in our area. I have spoken to community members that have ideas about other ideas, drums, hand drums, fire and a different way to hold a feast. We talked about how much to gather and have our ceremony is needed and I could not agree more — we need the fire and we need to gather. I will be doing all I can to make sure that we hold a gathering where people can be together and take part in or ceremonies again, this is so needed and I sure do miss seeing many of you at those gatherings.

The board is currently looking at a multimillion-dollar capital expense budget to renovate and upgrade our five casino properties. We are in the starting stage of that and I assume

there will be much more discussion on this but it is a priority that cannot take a back seat any longer so please know that this is where my support will be to make it better for our staff and customers at our properties. As you all know, we have taken a hit at all of the casinos due to the pandemic and juggling the loss of revenue. The need for upgrades will take discussion and commitment on how to accomplish this. I will update as we move forward on these items.

As always, we have many irons in the fire and hurdles to get through with our land into trust issues, 2020 negotiations, additional housing plans and our new property development items. Please know that my goal is to continue down a path that will advance and make us prosperous in the future. I am thankful for the many hard-working people we have that get us where we need to be on all the above items mentioned.

If you would like to discuss any items or meet, please reach out to me (906) 484-2954, (906) 322-3818 or email lcausley@saulttribe.net.

Please take care of each other. Baamaapii.

Lana Causley-Smith
Unit 2 Tribal Board Representative

Grant allows historical documents to be digitalized



KIMBERLE GRAVELLE
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

Hello,
I would like to say how much we appreciate our team mem-

bers. We know the enforcement of wearing masks has been a hard haul for some of them. Some individuals don't wear masks in public and some of our facilities require masks.

The majority of public institutions do not require masks for customers so is it time to just require our staff to wear masks to keep them safe? This is not an easy decision and there is a downside to each decision we make. When a customer becomes combative when requested to put their mask on our staff should not be put in this position. First and foremost, we need to consider the safety of our team members and the

If you have historical documents or items you would like to donate or have digitized, contact Marie Richards, repatriation and historic preservation specialist, at (906) 635-6050, ext. 26143.

community at large.

Our tribal Health Director will be looking into the mandates we have put in place and the safety of all our team members.

Our Language and Culture Division received a grant that will enable the Ojibwe Learning Center and Library to digitize our collections of historical documents.

This grant will also cover equipment to allow staff to support audio-visual recording and live streaming of our cultural workshops, programs and events, such as the annual Anishinaabemowin Conference. It will provide for better audio-visual quality programming for tribal members no matter where they reside.

The cultural department will be digitizing audio-visual materials, archival objects in possession of the Language and Cultural Divisions, and previously published Sault Tribe language programs.

If you have any historical documents or items you would

like to donate or have them digitized you can contact Marie Richards, Repatriation and Historic Preservation Specialist, at (906) 635-6050, ext. 26143.

As always, I would like to thank team members for their dedication and continued hard work.

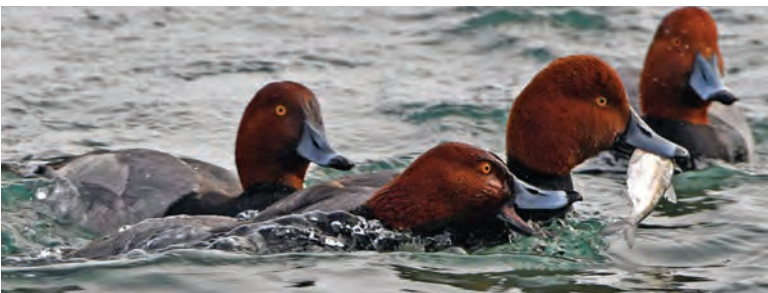
Please keep the men and women in the armed forces in your prayers and thoughts for a safe return to their families.

If you have any questions or comments, you can contact me at (906) 203-6083 or at KKGravelle@saulttribe.net.

Stay safe and healthy.

Thank You,
Kim

Marine City ducks find school of fish to eat



Greater consistency needed

From "Lowes," page 24
the pandemic. Inconsistencies with our policies have been a major source of frustration for me. Last year, gambling at the casino was considered safe, but attending a board meeting was viewed as dangerous and prohibited. This year, we've allowed travel hockey tournaments at the Big Bear where hundreds of people attend indoors, but we've cancelled outdoor cultural events such as powwows.

We recently shut down JKL due to "low vaccination rates" among students, even though the school doesn't even collect this data. No matter what JKL's vaccination rate is, it is higher than our Child Care Center, where children ages 0-4 attend and are ineligible to be vaccinated due to the FDA not approving them for this age group.

So, if the Child Care Center has a lower vaccination rate than JKL, why did only JKL close? Why are concerts in the 14,000 square foot Dreammaker's Theater cancelled at the last minute, but gambling and dining unmasked nearby is allowed? The answer is simple: we pick and choose. This is unfortunate because it negatively impacts tribal families.

To correct this, we need greater consistency with our COVID-19 policies. Measurable data, such as reported cases or hospital admission rates, should dictate what we do. Our elected leaders should also participate in COVID-19 policy making. In the beginning of the pandemic, this was delegated to the COVID Task Force. Although the task force is comprised of our executive staff who do an excellent job for us, none of them have an educational background in public health or public policy.

My position on this issue has evolved as the pandemic has prolonged. I believe we should do what tribe's such as Bay Mills do. Their elected leaders receive recommendations from key employees, medical staff especially, then they decide what to do. I don't believe one person, or a small task force, should determine when our businesses close, whether we have mask mandates, whether we have vaccine mandates, or when our schools shut down. Leaders are elected to make difficult decisions. It's time we start doing that.

To conclude, please stay safe. There are a lot of COVID cases out there right now. My daughter and I contracted COVID in January. Luckily, our symptoms were mild and we recovered quickly.

Miigwech!
Austin Lowes



Ducks in Marine City, Michigan.

Photos by Brenda Austin



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